

## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

**SUBJECT** Agricultural production in Bahrein and Saudi Arabia.

James Terry Duce, Vice President of California Arabian Standard Oil Company called at the Department requesting name of an agricultural expert in connection with desire of Company to increase, - to obviate the necessity of large food importations. Name of Franklin Harris was suggested.

FLH

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See memorandum  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Dec. 27, 1940 From State Department  
To Division of Near Eastern Affairs  
(Alling)

File No. 890f.6363 Standard Oil Co/126

890f.61a/2



FEB 6 1942

# TELEGRAM RECEIVED

ALH

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SC)

Cairo

FROM

Dated February 3, 1942

Rec'd 6:22 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

190, February 3, 10 a.m.

My 2049, December 30, 11 a.m., and my 189, Feb-

ruary 3, 9 a.m.

Has the Department any information as to the appointment of an agricultural expert to Saudi Arabia.

KIRK

HTM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 X FEB 5 - 1942  
 DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FEB 10 1942

FTI FD

Confidential File

890F.61A/2

note  
890f61A

Cairo  
2/6/42  
9:00 PM/SC



PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to  
\$

## TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
CONFIDENTIAL CODE  
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE  
PARTAIR  
PLAIN

### Department of State

SECRET

Washington.

*No distribution*

February 6, 1942.

AMERICAN LEGATION

CAIRO

115

Your 190, February 3, 10 a. m.

Department of Interior irrigation expert has been selected and choice of Department of Agriculture expert lies between two officials. It is planned to send Twitchell as head of this mission, which has received the President's informal approval. It is hoped that the President will send a letter to Ibn Saud and that you will find it possible to present in person this message, which would offer the Mission as an evidence of good will. For your strictly confidential information, the Army Air Corps is considering the desirability of establishing one or more airfields in Saudi Arabia on the basis of a suitable quid pro quo but has not yet made a decision of principle. You may, therefore, be requested to take this matter up at the time of your visit.

As soon as these matters take definite form, which should occur in the near future, you will be promptly advised.

NE/GPM/GC

890F.61A/2 FEB 6 1942 PM

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

890F.61A

Confidential File

PS/VS



18811

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

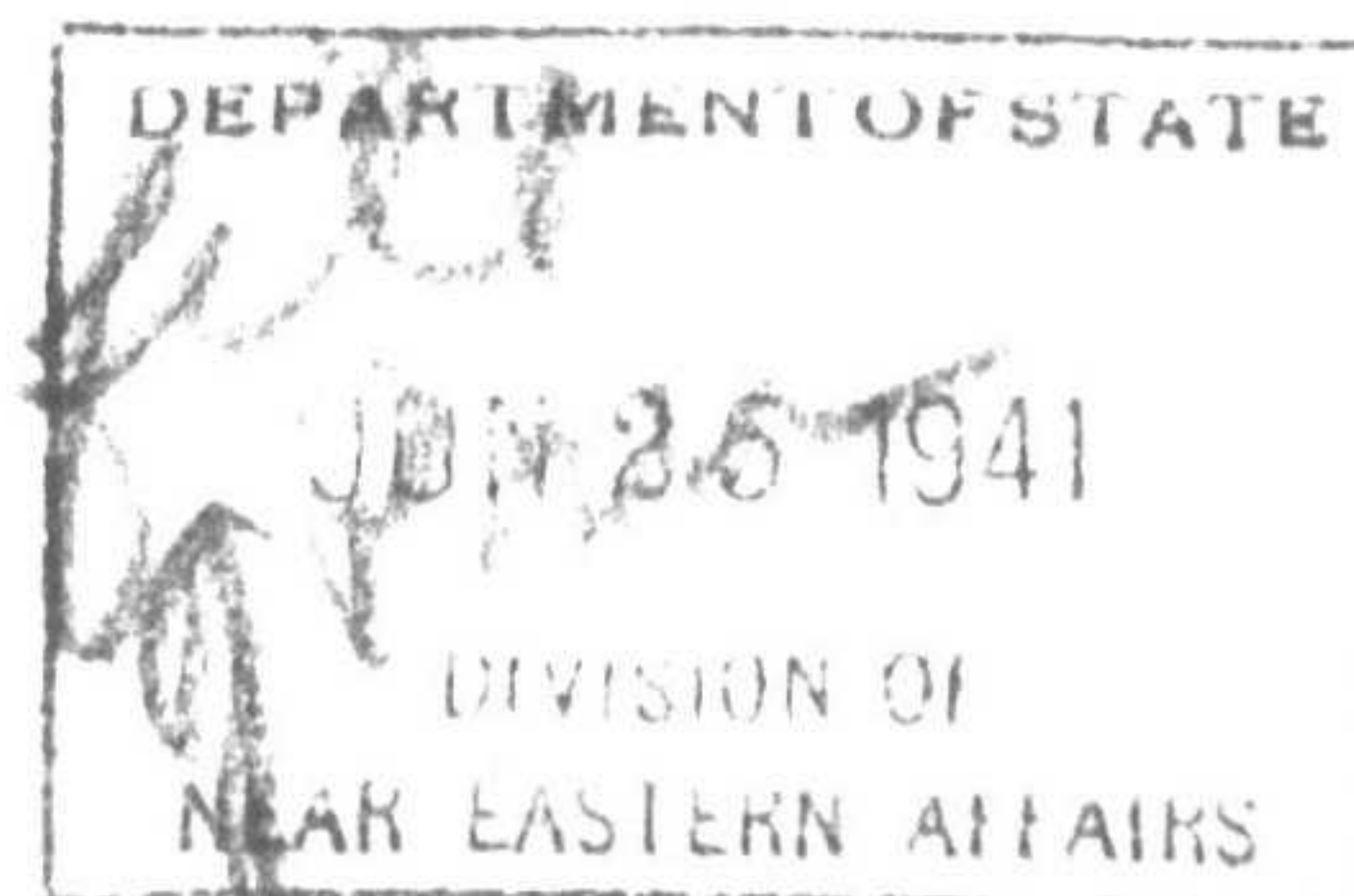
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Memorandum of Conversation*  
(Telephone)

DATE: May 14, 1941.

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO SEND A COMMISSION OF EXPERTS OF DEPARTMENTS  
OF AGRICULTURE AND OF THE INTERIOR TO SAUDI ARABIA

PARTICIPANTS: Commissioner John C. Page, Bureau of Reclamation,  
Department of the Interior  
Mr. Merriam



COPIES TO:

Commissioner Page said that yesterday he had received a call from Mr. K. S. Twitchell regarding the latter's suggestion that a group of agricultural and reclamation experts be sent to assist King Ibn Saud. He was well disposed to the idea and intended to discuss it with the Secretary of the Interior ~~Agriculture~~ today. The Department of the Interior, he said, might send us a letter on the subject, and he, for one, could easily understand, in the present international situation, how important it was to keep Ibn Saud well disposed to the democracies. While the work of such a commission would take some time to bear fruit, there could be nothing sounder than assistance designed to improve the agricultural position of

Saudi

890F.61A/3

PS/MCS  
FILED

SEP 5 1941



Saudi Arabia and doubtless the gesture of sending a commission would greatly encourage the King and was the important consideration at present.

Replying to my question as to what the basic interest of the Department of the Interior was in the matter, Commissioner Page said that, of course, no benefit to American agriculture or reclamation would result from work in Saudi Arabia. On the other hand, his Department from time to time made the services of its experts available to foreign governments as an act of general good-will and comity, and he felt that in the present circumstances his Department would be glad to help in every possible way in Saudi Arabia.

In response to another question, the Commissioner said that he frankly did not know on what legal basis Department of Interior experts could be sent to Saudi Arabia, but that this point could be ascertained at any desired time.

I told Commissioner Page that we very much appreciated his interest, that it was our understanding that Mr. Twitchell would give his proposal in writing, and that we would be glad to receive any communication which his Department might desire to send us on the subject. I added that if and when the matter should reach a more advanced stage we would doubtless desire to discuss specific questions such as personnel and the basis on which experts of the Department

of



18813

-3-

of the Interior could be made available for such a mission. Commissioner Page said that he would be glad to discuss those matters at any time.



DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

18814

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: June 20, 1941

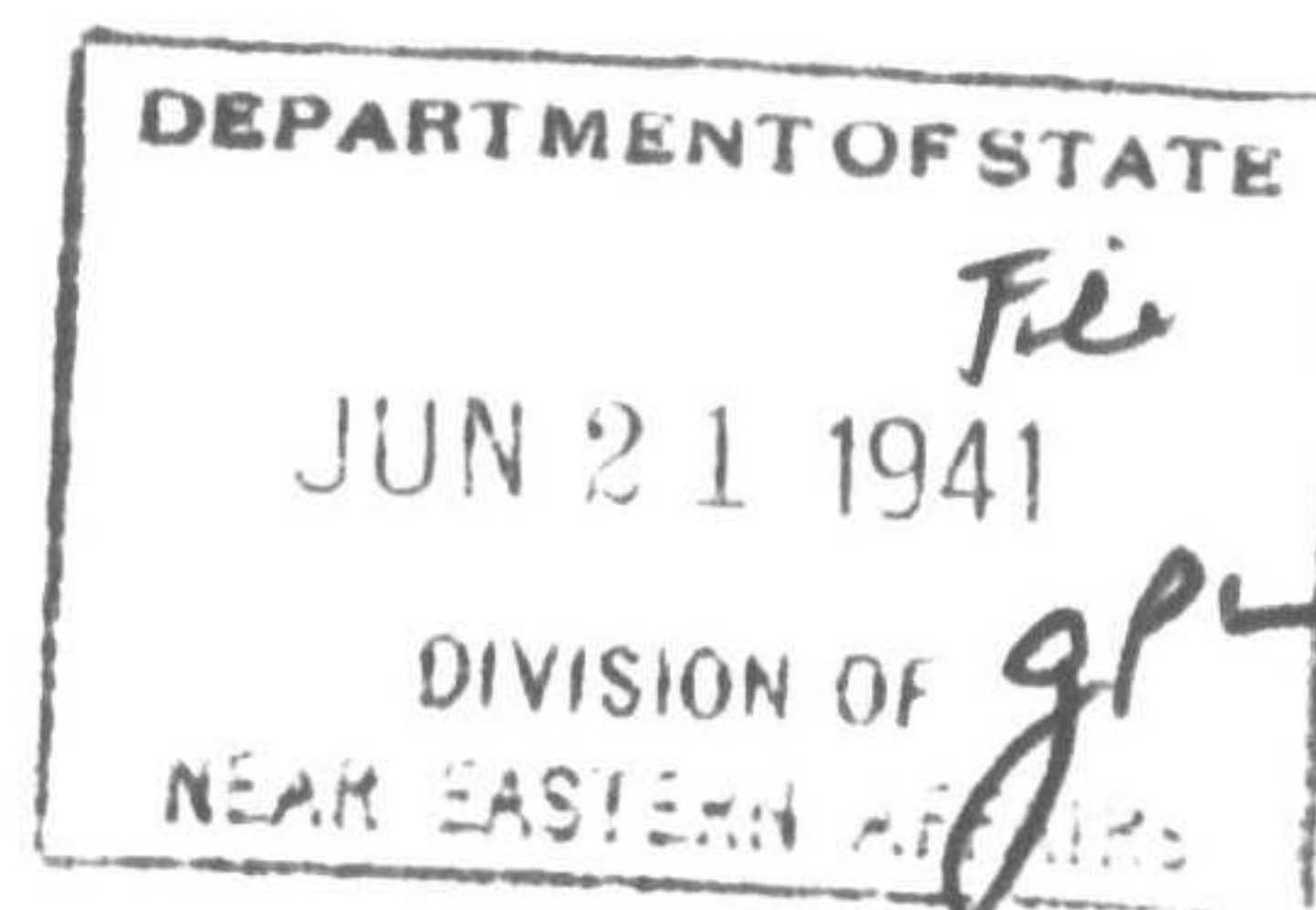
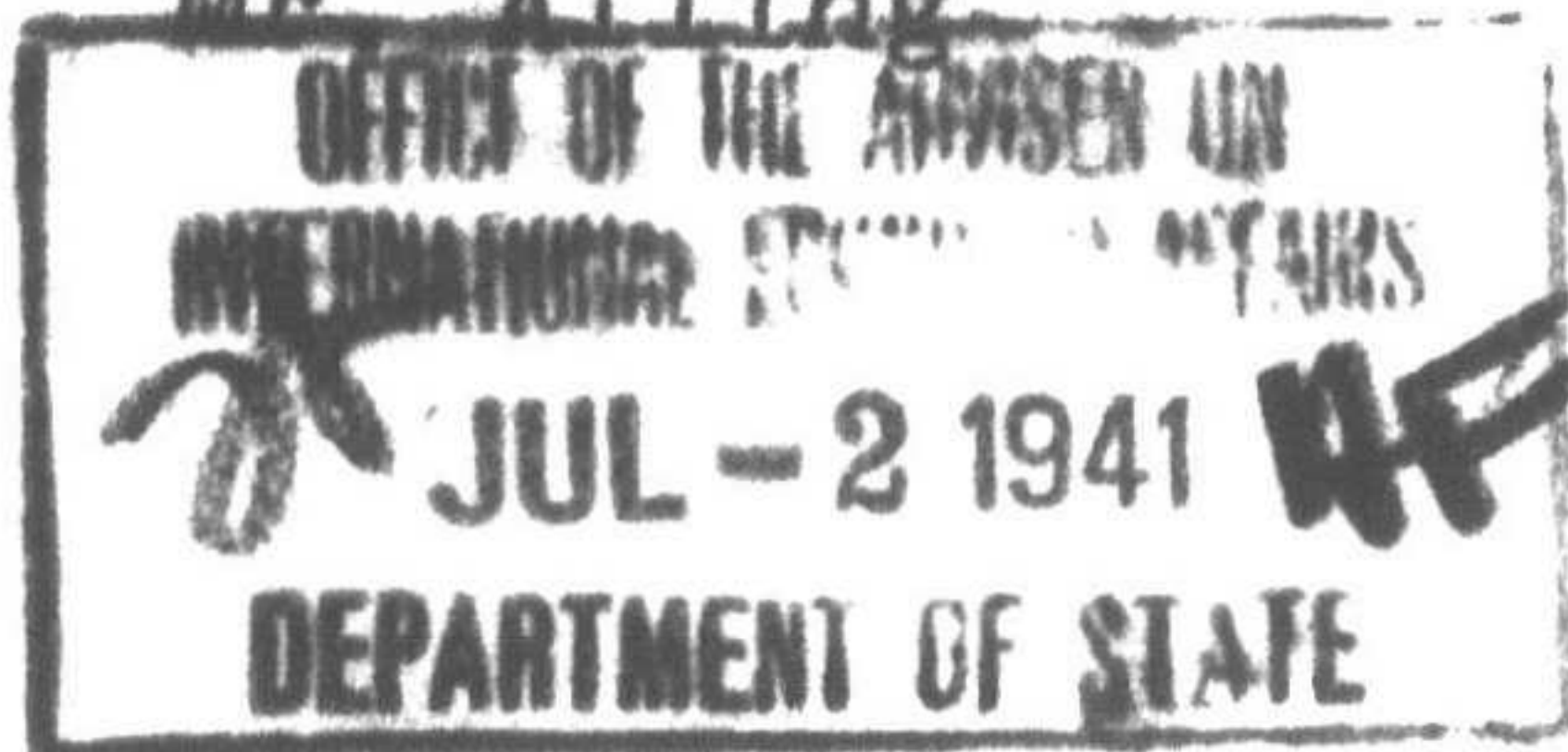
SUBJECT: Financial Assistance and Agricultural Advisers for King Ibn Saud.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Neville Butler, Minister-Counselor of British Embassy.

Mr. Murray

Mr. Alling

COPIES TO:



Mr. Butler stated that about two weeks ago Mr. K. S. Twitchell had called on him and had outlined his plan, which he had presented to the Department, to send agricultural and reclamation advisers to King Ibn Saud. Mr. Butler said that he had sent an account of Mr. Twitchell's conversation by telegraph to London and that he was now in receipt of a reply.

The Foreign Office stated in this reply that it had referred the matter to the British Minister at Jedda, who was distinctly in favor of the proposal. The British Government added that it also would welcome the sending of such a mission to King Ibn Saud and proposed that it be headed by Mr. Twitchell and that he be assisted by competent experts.

The

890F.61A/4

FILED

PS/MCS

SEP 20 1941



The instruction from London went on to say that although the British Government favored this agricultural mission, it was obvious that it would bring benefits to King Ibn Saud only over a long term. Meanwhile the King was in desperate need of financial assistance. The instruction added that the payment to Ibn Saud by the British Government had been increased recently, and it was expected that another substantial payment to him would be made in the near future. The British Government expressed the hope, however, that this Government would find it possible also to extend financial assistance to Ibn Saud and in that way to support his régime.

It was indicated to Mr. Butler that word had come to us that some means was being sought to carry out the plan proposed by the California Arabian Standard Oil Company for the purchase of oil by the United States Government, the money used in payment to go to the King. It was indicated that this matter was now in the hands of Mr. Jesse Jones, who, it was understood, was trying to find some means of carrying it into effect. Mr. Butler indicated his appreciation of the efforts which were being made to find some solution for this problem.



# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

### SUBJECT

Government experts on agriculture, irrigation and roads:  
Suggest we might at Ibn Saud's request place small group  
of - at his disposal.

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Vol. 1, p. 231, 8 pm  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated June 20, 1941 From Egypt  
to

File No. 123 K 637/400

890. F. 61A 75

890 F. 61a

151



## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

## SUBJECT

Offer of services of American agricultural  
experts to Saudi Arabia.

Expresses views on --.

LDP

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Tel. #878. 10 PM  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

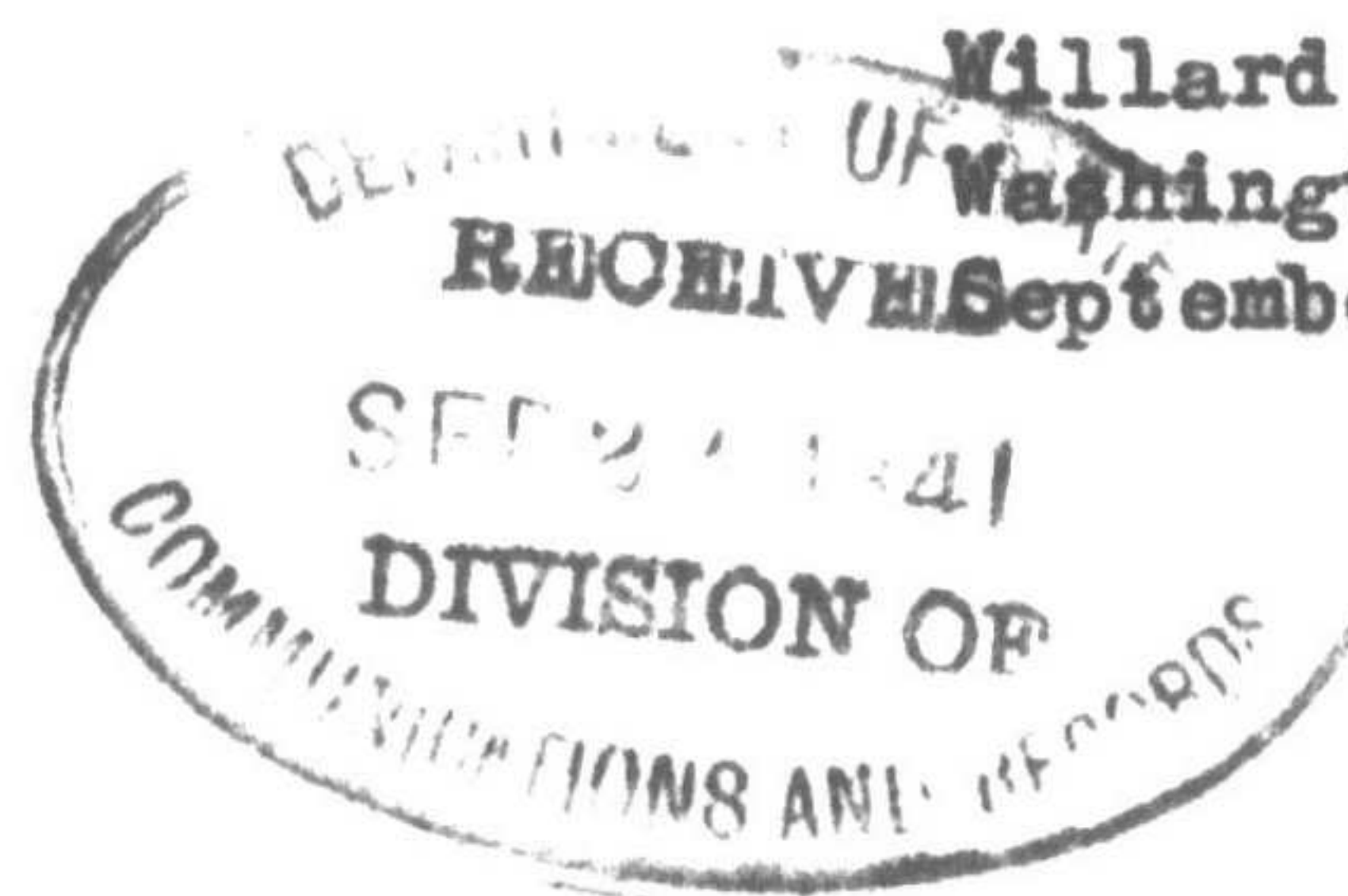
Dated July 3, 1941 From Egypt (Kirk)  
To

File No. 890f.51/25



K. S. TWITCHELL  
273 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET  
BURLINGTON, VERMONT

PHONE  
2845



*Copy to Cairo  
10/6/41  
H. G. M. Kenna*

September 27, 1941  
*gpc*



Gordon Merriam, Esq.  
Division of Near Eastern Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I herewith enclose for your files the letter I have written to His Majesty, King Ibn Saud, after making the alterations which you approved yesterday.

If by any misunderstanding on my part, you or Mr. Alling think any other modification is advisable, I know that you will inform me at once so that I may instruct New York to have it made; but after your reading over the entire modified letter, I feel sure nothing further is necessary.

The cable, as well as the letter, is being sent to New York for them to transmit.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*K. S. Twitchell*

K. S. Twitchell

Enc. 

*890f.61a*

890F.61A/7

OCT 16 1941

PS  
FACCS  
FILED



September 20, 1941

His Majesty,  
Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud,  
King of Saudi Arabia,  
Riyadh, Nejd,  
Saudi Arabia.

Your Majesty:

Greetings.

Please accept my sincere wishes that you and your sons are enjoying the best of health and all good things of life.

Since I had the privilege and pleasure of the meetings with you about a year ago, I have been doing my best to carry out the wishes as you expressed them verbally to me and as were written on August 18.

The Syndicate has done its best to assist by authorizing my trips to Washington, our Southwestern States, and California. As I stated in my cable I have travelled over 17,600 kilometers in studying conditions where methods are in use which may be of benefit to your agricultural areas at El Kharj.



and other parts of Hajd, and your great kingdom.  
During this trip I had conferences in California with  
the only firm I could find which was interested in  
working in Saudi Arabia with pumps and equipment.  
This firm is the Peerless Pump Company of Los Angeles,  
California.

Mr. Vernon Edler, General Manager  
of the Peerless Pump Company, and I spent many hours dis-  
cussing how work could be undertaken as you desire. The  
result was his letter which I herewith enclose.

In San Francisco I saw Mr. Hamilton  
and Mr. Davies, as well as other officials of C.A.S.O.C.;  
all are anxious to assist me in carrying out your desires.

On my return to New York I went  
over all this matter with Mr. Guess and Mr. Goodwin of  
the Syndicate. They approved that I should go to Washington  
to confer with our Government to obtain opinions of experts.

Our State Department was most  
anxious to be of assistance and introduced me to the  
heads of the Departments of Agriculture, Reclamation,  
Indian Affairs, and Public Roads. I told these Departments  
about your letter, your problems and conditions, the



information I had gathered in my trip through the Southwestern States, and the views of Mr. Eiler, the oil company and ourselves. All these Government officials were most interested and thought that experts could be found to carry out the required investigations to the maximum efficiency. Such examinations and reports they felt sure would be the sound foundation on which the water and agricultural developments you desire could be based, planned and carried out. In addition, I would very much like to see a Road Engineer make a trip to Acir to confirm my recommendations of road routes. I believe that the Wadi Dthila will be best for operating trucks and cars, although it might cost more to construct than the Mesghie route I marked out.

As yet it is impossible to say whether or not United States Government experts could be taken away from their present duties for such a service, or if it might be necessary to try to find experts from private life. We are also trying to find out what the Syndicate and the oil company could do about arranging matters so that a plan can be submitted for Your Majesty's consideration. I am hoping that definite plans may be cabled you even before this letter arrives.



I wanted you to know that the Syndicate is doing everything it can to be of real assistance to you, and I wanted you to know of the progress of my efforts to date. As I was so fortunate as to secure the oil and the mining development as you requested several years ago I hope success may finally result in this matter. With the present terrible upset in World conditions due to madman Hitler there are more difficulties and delays than in normal times.

Very best wishes for all success  
and prosperity.

Yours very sincerely,

K. S. Twitchell

cc  
Finance Minister  
Najib, Eff.  
H.A.G.  
Wallace Murray  
C.A.S.O.C.  
S.A.M.S.



September 27, 1941

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/7

My dear Mr. Twitchell:

Thank you for your courtesy in sending, under cover of your letter of September 21, 1941 to Mr. Merriam, a copy of a letter which you intend to send to King Ibn Saud, reporting on certain activities in which you have been engaged informally on His Majesty's behalf.

We have no comments to offer on the proposed letter to the King under reference.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Paul H. Alling  
Acting Chief  
Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Mr. K. S. Twitchell,

In care of American Smelting & Refining Company,

Equitable Building,

New York, New York.

NE:GPH:BLS 9/26/41

890F.61A/7

PSI





## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

**SUBJECT** Proposed mission to Saudi Arabia of United States  
Agricultural adviser.

Suggests sounding out King Ibn Saud on matter of  
finances for the - .

LR

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Memorandum  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated September 23, 1941 From State Department  
13 } Near Eastern Affairs  
(Merriam)

File No. 890f.51/40

890f.61A /8

PS/VB



PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

# TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
CONFIDENTIAL CODE  
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE  
PARTAIR  
PLAIN

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to

\$

## Department of State

Secret

*No distribution*

Washington.

FEB 26 1942

March 10, 1942

AMERICAN LEGATION

CAIRO

165

Cable was sent to Cairo and Egypt.  
It should be carefully paraphrased before  
being communicated to anyone.

SE

890f.61A/9

*Int. to  
Cairo, enc.  
This letter to  
King Ibn Saud  
2/26/42*

890f.61A/9

Further to the Department's 115, February 6, 9 p.m., funds have now been authorized for a QUOTE United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia UNQUOTE headed by K. S. Twitchell and having Albert Lee Wathen, Department of the Interior and James Guy Hamilton, Department of Agriculture, as members. It is hoped that the Mission will depart by air about March 15. It will proceed via Cairo and its work in Saudi Arabia will occupy a minimum of three months.

The Saudi Arabian Legation at Cairo should be informed of the foregoing with an expression of hope that the Saudi Arabian Government will furnish food, lodging, transport and such local personnel as may be required. You should also state that the President has addressed a letter to King Ibn Saud which will be delivered at the time of the Mission's arrival.

For your strictly confidential information, the War Department desires in principle to establish airfields

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

PS/RF 9  
Confidential File



# TELEGRAM SENT

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to

\$

## Department of State

-2-

Washington.

in Saudi Arabia and expects to designate an officer in Cairo to accompany you when you present your credentials, the President's letter above mentioned, and the Agricultural Mission. The War Department desires the officer in question to make a survey and to prepare definite recommendations. The method of approach in this matter is left to your discretion after you consult with General Maxwell and, if you consider it desirable, with the British. It may be best to have the officer designated accompany you as a member of your staff and bring up the question of airfields after you reach Saudi Arabia.

In connection with the establishment of a combined office at Jidda, in regard to which a separate message is being sent, it is hoped to bring Moose to Cairo in time to accompany you <sup>or</sup> ~~in~~ your journey.

*gpr*

*Waller*  
*acting*  
*acting*

*OR*  
FEB 26 1942 PM

890F 61A/2

NE:GPM:BLS

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_



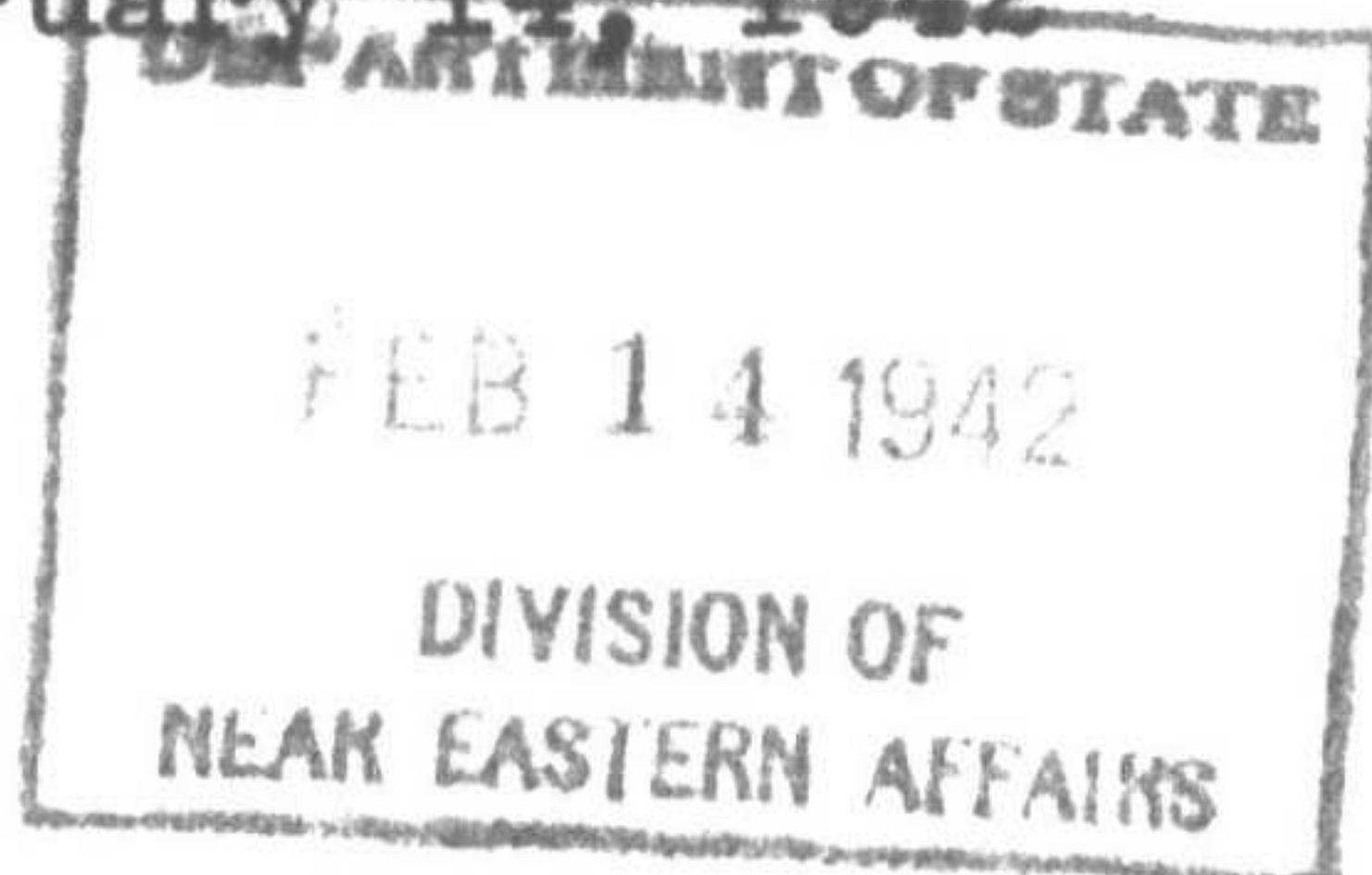
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  

---

THE UNDER SECRETARY

February 14, 1942

NE  
Mr. Murray:



Please note that the President has added a postscript to this letter. Will you take care of getting this off?

U:SW:DMK



**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

---

**DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS**

**February 14, 1942**

**NOTE FOR THE FILE**

The postscript added in the President's hand to the original letter is worded as follows:

"P.S. I have just seen some very interesting films of various places in your Kingdom which have pleased me. I wish that I could visit your country.

**FDR"**

*gph*  
**NE:GPMerriam**



March 10, 1942

890F.61A/9

No. 111

The Honorable

Alexander Kirk,

American Minister,

Cairo.

Sir:

Reference is made to the Department's telegram no. 165 of February 26, 10 p.m., 1942, in which it was stated that the President had issued a letter to His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia, for delivery upon the arrival of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia in that country.

The President's letter under reference is enclosed herewith. The Department desires you to deliver the letter to His Majesty in person. However, the message is so worded that if circumstances make it impossible for you to carry out this procedure, it can be delivered by another person to be designated by you, in your discretion.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Enclosure:

A. A. BERLE, JR.

Unsealed envelope.

890F.61A/9

CR

MAR 10 1942

NE:GPM:BLS 3/9/42

PS/MM



✓  
PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

## TELEGRAM SENT

*Brown*  
TO BE TRANSMITTED  
CONFIDENTIAL CODE  
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE  
PARTAIR  
PLAIN

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

### Department of State

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Washington,

Restricted

Charge to \$ 19-112/30006 Emergency Fund  
for the President,  
National Defense  
(Allotment to State) 1942-43.  
Allocation No. 42/3-2.

2/  
March 19, 1942  
10 pm

✓ AMERICAN LEGATION,

CAIRO (EGYPT).

243  
1. The President has appointed K. S. Twitchell to head the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia with James Guy Hamilton and Albert L. Wathen as associates. They are proceeding to Cairo with Admiral Standley's party and will remain for a short period for consultation. Please give them all appropriate assistance.

890F.61A  
2. The President has granted \$50,000 to the Department for the expenses of the Mission of which \$30,000 is allotted to your office for expenses incurred abroad. Twitchell has been bonded as agent cashier and has received a cash advance of \$1,500 for running expenses. He has also been bonded as a certifying officer under the Act approved December 29, 1941. Please arrange to receive and pay vouchers certified by him, taking them up in your regular accounts under the symbol Quote 19-112/30006

Emergency

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

890F.61A/9

PS/EPM



PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

## TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
CONFIDENTIAL CODE  
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE  
PARTAIR  
PLAIN

### Department of State

-2-

Washington.

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to

\$

Emergency Fund for the President, National Defense

(Allotment to State) 1942-1943. Allocation No. 42/3-2

Unquote but segregating from State account of advances.

On arrival at Cairo members of Mission should be paid travel expenses and accumulated per diem from their homes in the United States in accordance with travel orders in their possession and transportation to Jidda should be purchased. Salaries will be paid by the Department in the United States.

3. Please report total expenditures from above fund by telegraph every two months beginning May 1. When office at Jidda is opened this allotment will be transferred there. Final statement of disbursements by your office should then be made.

Welles  
Welles  
Acting

FA: CWS: LSM

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

M.

19

CR

MAR 21 1942



## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

**SUBJECT** Agricultural expert to Saudi Arabia.

Request information as to the appointment of an --.

890F.61A/9

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Tel. #190, 10am  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Feb. 3, 1942 From } Egypt (Kirk)  
To }

Confidential File

File No. 890.612/2



## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

## SUBJECT

Agricultural Mission of technical experts to assist in the development of Arabia:  
Encloses message to the King of Saudi Arabia regarding - .

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See (-) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated February 12, 1942 \_\_\_\_\_  
From \_\_\_\_\_  
To \_\_\_\_\_  
To President

File No. 890F.001 IBN Saud/ 30 \_\_\_\_\_

890 F.61A / 10

PS/LH



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**TELEGRAM RECEIVED**

MAR 27 1942

CHIEF, DIVISION OF  
FOREIGN SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

W/M

This telegram must be Cairo  
paraphrased before being  
communicated to anyone  
other than a Governmental  
agency. (BR)

Dated March 26, 1942

FROM

Rec'd 6:39 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Assistant Secretary  
of State

APR 3 1942

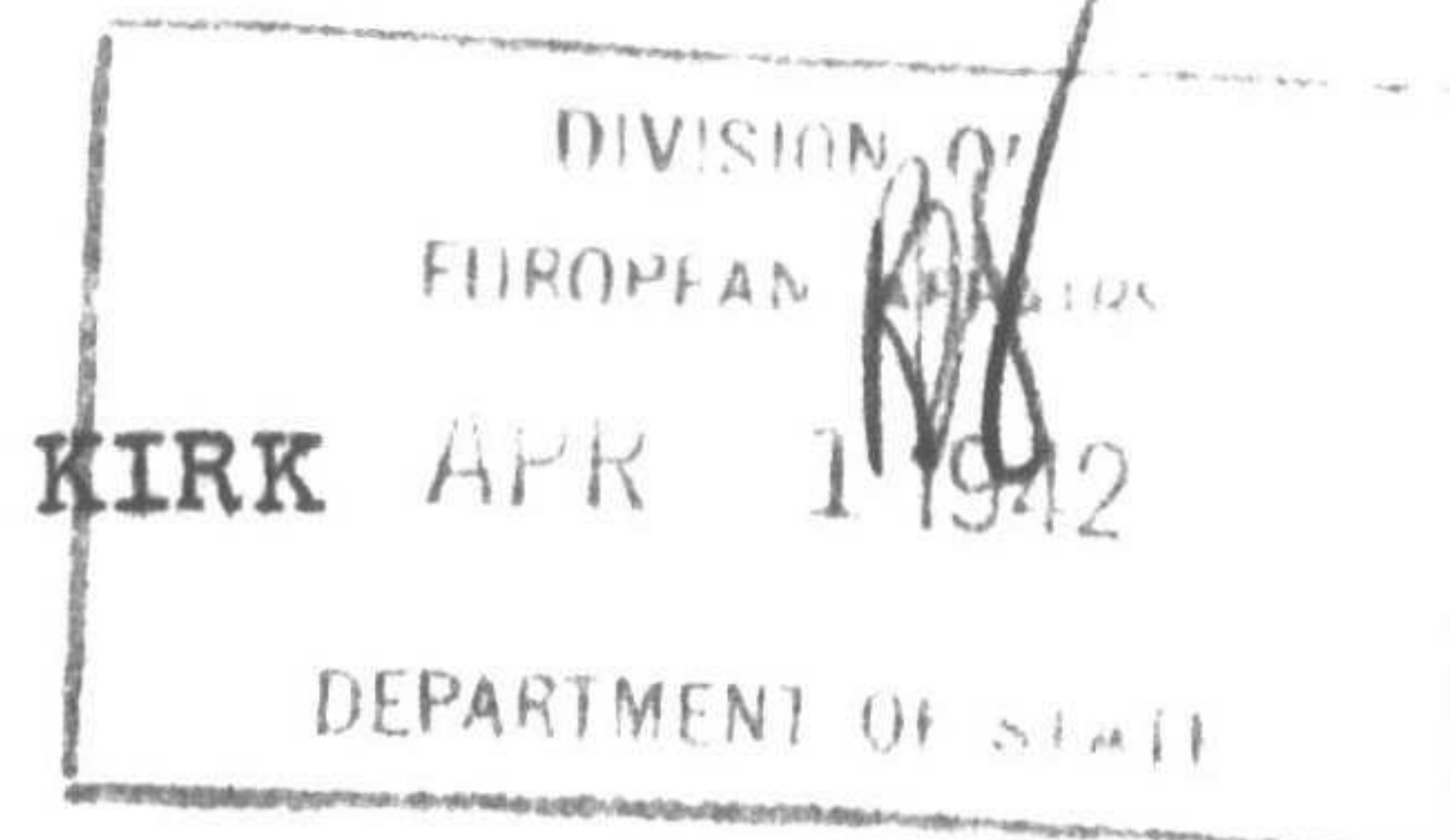
MR. SHAW

468, March 26, 4 p.m.

Department's 243, March 21, 10 p.m.

Twitchell, Hamilton and Wathen arrived Cairo

March 26.



APR 3 1942

890F.61A/11  
612/11

PS/GD

890f.61a

EMB

Handwritten notes and signatures on the right margin, including "27" and "13".



FOR THE PRESS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



MARCH 25, 1942  
No. 122

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

The Government of Saudi Arabia having inquired of the Government of the United States whether the services of two American experts in irrigation and agricultural matters could be made available, this Government has organized an Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia. The Mission will examine and report to the Government of Saudi Arabia upon the water and agricultural resources of that country and the possibilities of their development. It will also conduct experimental plantings. The personnel of the Mission, which has already departed, is as follows:

Chief: Mr. K. S. Twitchell;

Members: Mr. Albert L. Wathen, Acting  
Chief, Engineering Branch,  
Indian Bureau, United States  
Department of the Interior;

Mr. James G. Hamilton, Regional  
Agronomist at Albuquerque, New  
Mexico, Soil Conservation Ser-  
vice, United States Department  
of Agriculture.

Mr. Twitchell is an American citizen who has had extensive technical experience in Saudi Arabia. The other members are, as indicated, government experts familiar with conditions in a section of this country which are similar to those prevailing in Saudi Arabia.

This Government is pleased to have been able to respond in this way to the inquiry of the Saudi Arabian Government.

\* \* \*

890F.61A.112

112

PS/DG



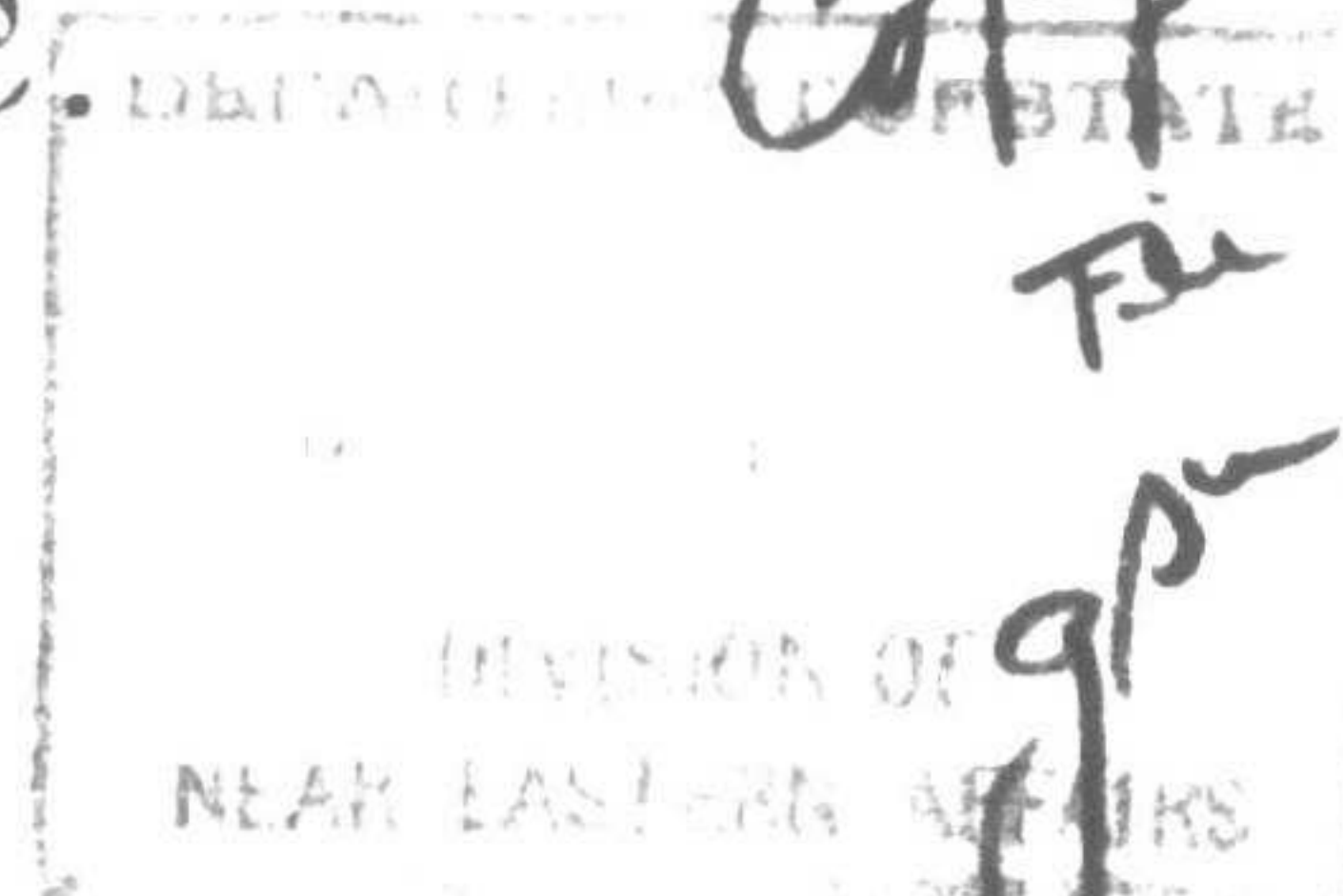


# THE WILLARD HOTEL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 18, 1942

Mr. Gordon Merriam  
Division of Near Eastern Affairs  
State Department  
Washington, D. C.



SUBJECT: U.S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia;  
Baggage to be sent to Cairo, Egypt, on  
Following Plane.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I am herewith giving a list of the baggage, as you instructed this morning. I understand that you will send a duplicate of this list to Lieutenant Ricks at the Municipal Airport, Miami, Florida, but in order to avoid any chance of going astray, I am sending him a duplicate of this letter. For his information, I will repeat that this is for the U.S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, and all material is to be sent to me in care of the American Legation at Cairo, Egypt. I have instructed Mr. A. L. Wathen, and he is passing this information on to Mr. J. G. Hamilton to make similar lists and to mark all baggage as above and send by Prepaid Express to 1st Lieutenant Earl T. Ricks, Municipal Airport, Miami, Florida.

- #1. Typewriter Case - contents: medicine case and correspondence files.  
Weight - 32#
- #2. Carton - 60"x60" screen for projecting pictures, gift to King Ibn Saud.  
Weight - 22#
- #3. New Revelation Suitcase - contents: tropical clothing and 2 batteries for Zenith Radio.  
Weight - 61#
- #4. Carton - Zenith Portable Radio, gift for Finance Minister.  
Weight 16#

APR 29 1942

FILED



890F.61A/13

PS/RP



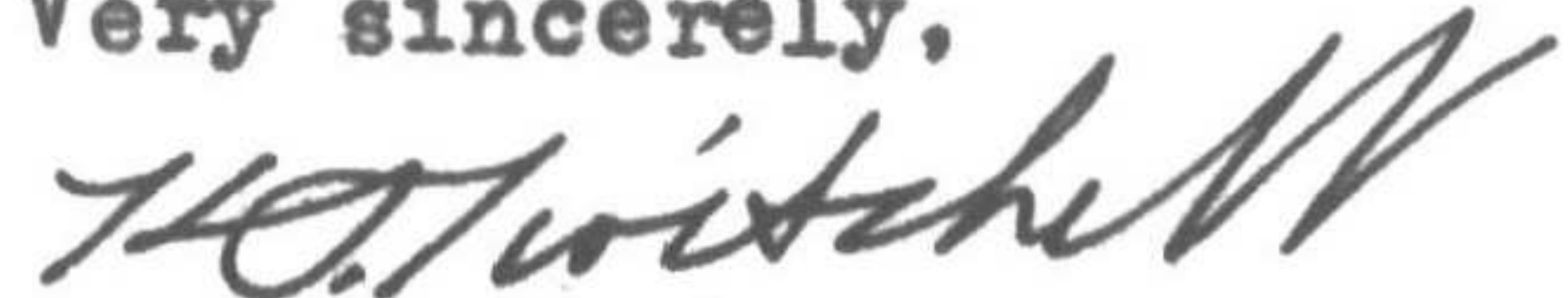
Mr. Gordon Merriam  
State Department

March 18, 1942  
Page Two

- #5. Old Revelation Suitcase - contents: clothing,  
also spare lamps for projectors.  
Weight 49# about
- #6. SVE Projector, gift to King Ibn Saud.  
Weight 9#
- #7. Cine Kodak Case - 3 spare 100' 16 mm. films  
and Cine Kodak loaded partly exposed.  
Weight - about 9#

Kind regards, and many thanks for the many facilities and  
wonderful arrangements you have made for us.

Very sincerely,



K. S. Twitchell  
c/o The American Legation  
Cairo, Egypt

cc: 1st Lt. Earl T. Ricks  
Municipal Airport  
Miami, Florida



April 28, 1942

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/13

My dear Lieutenant Ricks:

I refer to my letter of March 21, 1942, regarding the forwarding of baggage to Cairo belonging to the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

A telegram, dated April 23, 1942, has been received from Mr. K. S. Twitchell, Chief of the Mission, stating that a projection screen (item number two in his list), a gift to King Ibn Saud, has not reached Cairo.

Any information in regard to the article in question which you can give me would be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

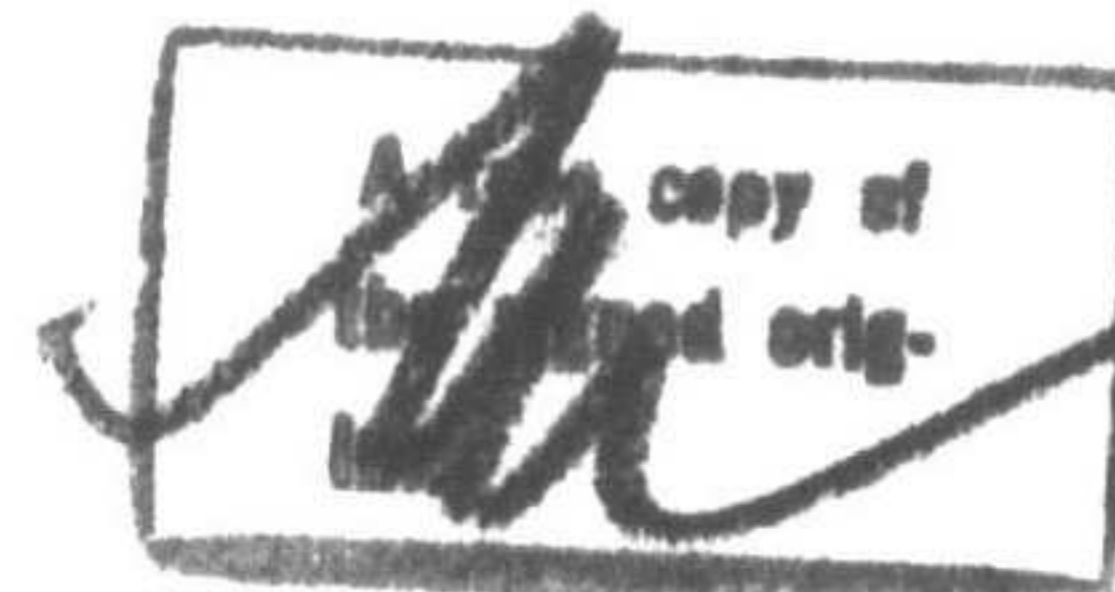
Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

First Lieutenant Earl T. Ricks,  
Control Officer,  
Municipal Airport,  
Miami, Florida.

APR 28 1942

NE/GPM:EML

4-28-42



850F.61A/13

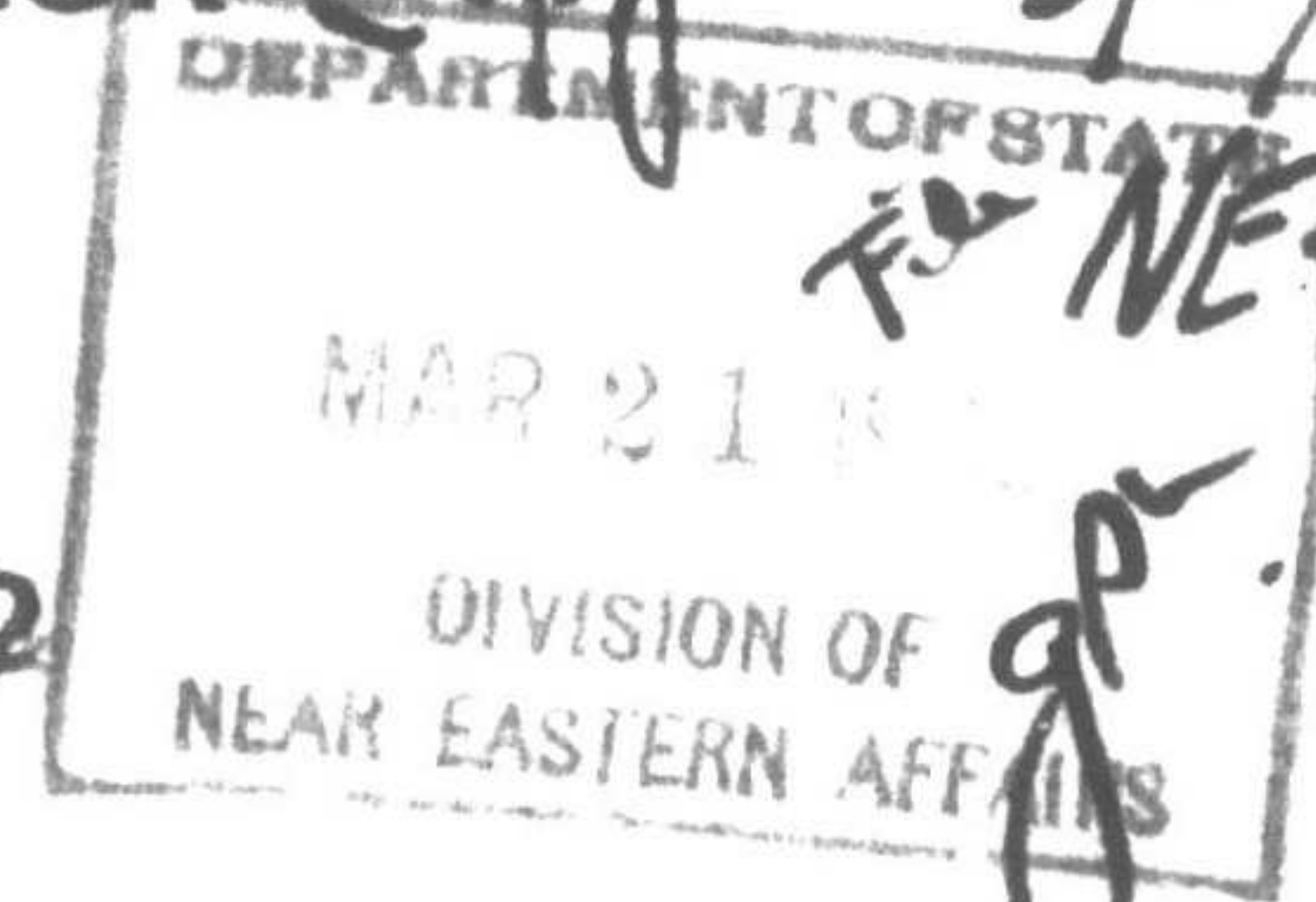


UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

Irrigation



March 21, 1942



MAR 19 1942

My dear Mr. Merriam:

I have shipped via Railway Express prepaid to First Lt. Earl T. Ricks, Municipal Airport, Miami, Florida, for forwarding to the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi, Arabia, care of the United States Legation, Cairo, Egypt, excess baggage as follows:

- 1 Leather brief case, contents - technical books, photos and photo slides, weight 25 pounds.
- 1 Airplane type case, contents - clothing and miscellaneous articles, weight 34 pounds.
- 1 Leather bag, contents -
  - 1 package stationery and booklets
  - 1 " cigarettes
  - 1 " survey instruments and tripod
  - 1 " photo films
  - 2 " medicine
  - 2 envelopes of maps
  - 3 technical books
 weight 51 pounds.

Total weight 3 bags - 110 pounds.

Sincerely yours,

*A. L. Wathen*

A. L. Wathen  
Acting Chief Engineer

APR 29 1942

FILED

PS/RF

890F.61A/14

890F.61A

copy to Lieut Ricks  
3/21/42  
for NE 9PM/9C



March 21, 1942

# AIR MAIL

## AIR MAIL

My dear Lieutenant Ricks: <sup>13</sup>

There are enclosed herewith a copy of a letter dated March 18, 1942, from Mr. K. S. Twitchell, Chief, United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, and a copy of a letter of March 19 from Mr. A. L. Wathen, <sup>14</sup> a member of the Mission, regarding excess weight baggage desired to be forwarded by air to Cairo, Egypt, where their address will be in care of the American Legation.

We have not received a similar communication from Mr. J. G. Hamilton, the third member of the Mission, who, we understand, sent to you his excess baggage weighing slightly under one hundred pounds, the contents being similar in character to the baggage of Mr. Wathen. You are, of course, entirely at liberty to have any or all of the baggage of the members of the Mission opened for the purpose of verifying the contents.

We

First Lieutenant Earl T. Ricks,  
Control Officer,  
Municipal Airport,  
Miami, Florida.

890F.61A/14

PS/RP



We should greatly appreciate it if all of the baggage above mentioned could be forwarded by air to Cairo at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures:

Copy of letters  
from Mr. Twitchell  
and Mr. Wathen.

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

*gpm*  
NE:GPM/OC

3/21/42

✓  
UK  
MAR 21 1942 PM

A true copy of  
the original  
(100)



In reply  
refer to:

FERRY COMMAND STATE  
Office of the Control Officer  
Miami Municipal Airport  
Miami, Florida

ETR/edb.



SUBJECT: Baggage for U.S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

TO : Mr. Paul H. Alling, Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

1. In reply to your letter of April 28, 1942, package containing motion picture screen for United States Agricultural Mission at Saudi Arabia, was shipped from this station on March 26, 1942, on C-53 airplane, number US 91.

13

*Earl T. Ricks*  
EARL T. RICKS,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Asst. Control Officer.

890F.61A/15 PS/ET

890F.61A





# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

**SUBJECT** Agricultural Mission

Departure by air of - , scheduled for March 19.

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Tel. #221, 9 pm  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated March 16, 1942 ~~From~~ Egypt  
To

File No. 123 Moose, James S./352

890F61A/16

890F61A/16



DM

PLAIN

# TELEGRAM RECEIVED

Cairo

Assistant Secretary  
of State

MAY 15 1942

MR. SHAW

Secretary of State,

Washington.

764, twelfth.

Following from Minister Kirk at Jidda

Dated May 12, 1942

FROM Id 9:44 a.m., 13th

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAY 13 1942

DIVISION OF  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

*Go into  
2-line  
or  
5/15*

MAY 19 1942

"May eleventh. Kindly inform Department that last member of Twitchell mission arrived in Saudi Arabia yesterday and that mission was presented to King this afternoon."

JACOBS

DD

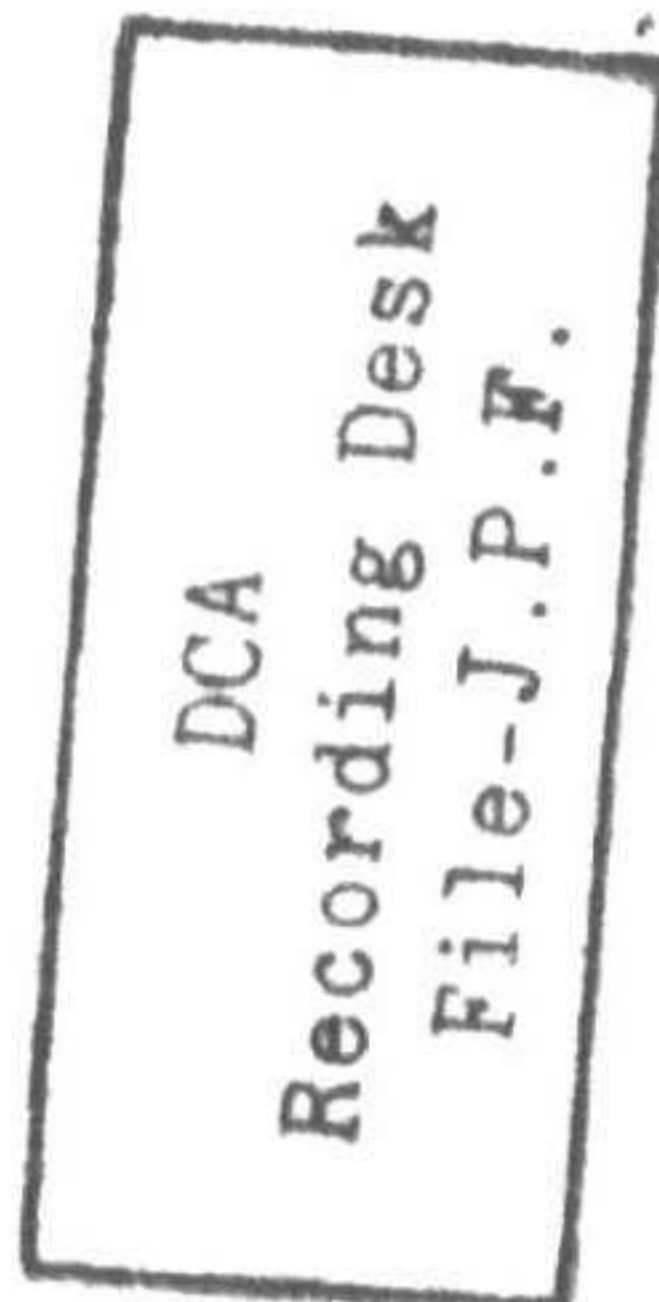
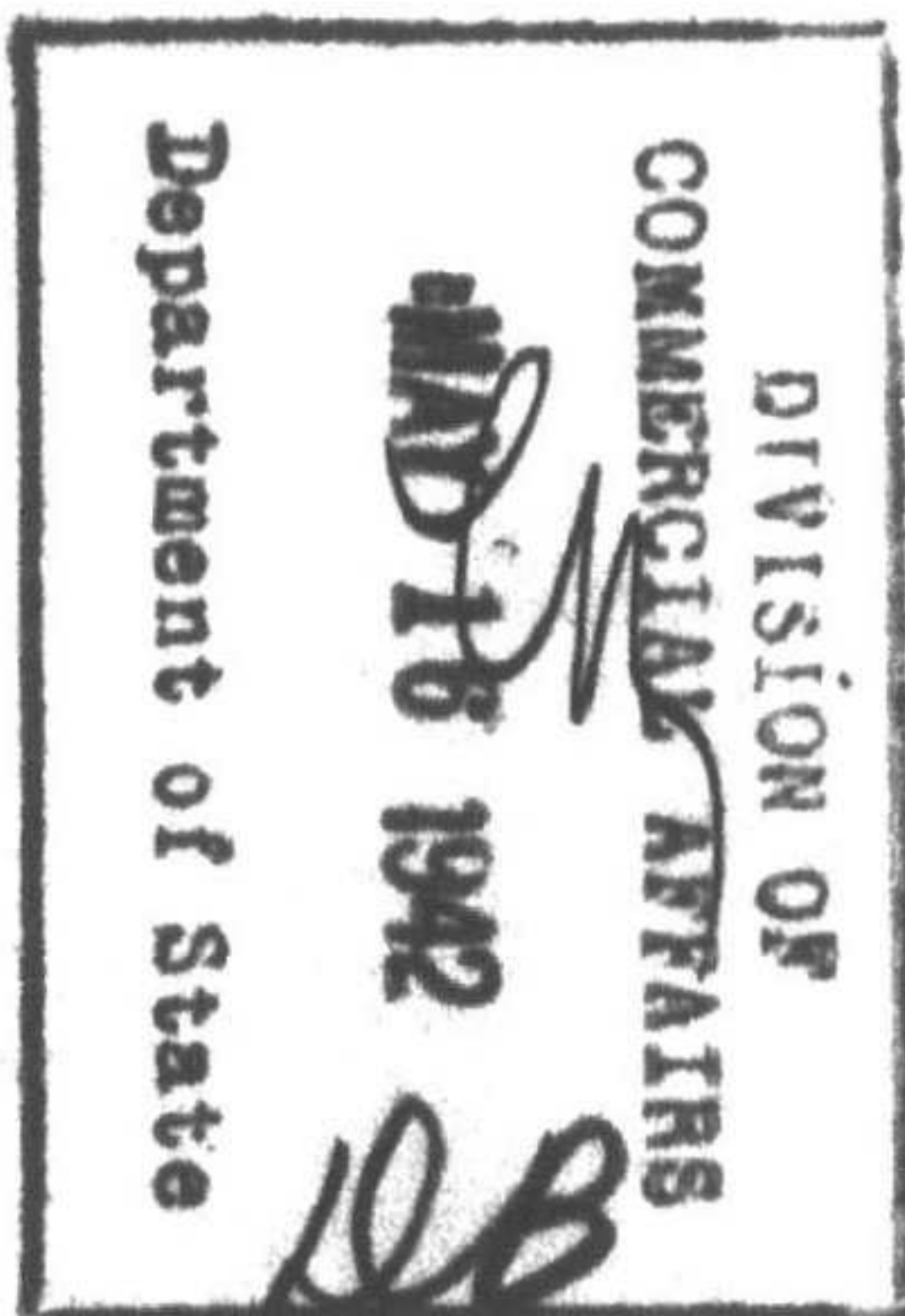


890F.61A/17

FILED

MAY 21 1942

PS/ATB



*890f.61a*





MONTHLY STATEMENT

New York, 10-10-1942 194

U.S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia  
Appropriation National Defense Emergency Fund  
for the President, Room 118 State Department  
Washington, D.C.

To New York Camera Exchange, Dr.

J. H. ANDREWS, Prop.

Telephone BEekman 3-2386-7

116 Fulton Street

Attention Mr. Carl Strom

To Balance,  
To Merchandise,

March 10th

\$97.84

890F.51

890F.61A/JB

MAY 26 1942

FILED

PS/RH

Gentlemen: Our custom is to render a statement at the beginning of each month of purchases made off us, whether the same be DUE or NOT. Please examine the above, and if NOT CORRECT PLEASE ADVISE US immediately.

For such amount as may be DUE we shall feel obliged by an early remittance. ALL OVERDUE items will be subject to bank DRAFT on the tenth of the current month, unless otherwise advised.



FILE DIV. OF ACCTS. 55

April 16, 1942

New York Camera Exchange,  
116 Fulton Street,  
New York, New York.

JA 42808

Sirs:

I have received your statement of April 2, 1942 covering your sale of March 10, 1942 in the amount of \$97.84 to the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

In order that this account may be settled it is requested that the enclosed voucher form be signed as indicated and returned to this office. Immediately upon its receipt the voucher will be administratively approved and forwarded to the Disbursing Office, Treasury Department, for issuance of check.

8908.81 A

3307.61A/18

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Harry A. Havens  
Assistant Chief, Division of  
Foreign Service Administration

16 1942

Enclosure:  
As above.

FA:CWS:LSM  
DA-JSS

4/15/42

gdy

DA [signature]  
Dive

1 of 1  
[unclear]  
[unclear]

PS/RI

17a



AS

Cairo

This telegram  
paraphrased before being  
communicated to anyone  
other than a Governmental  
agency. (BR)

**TELEGRAM RECEIVED**

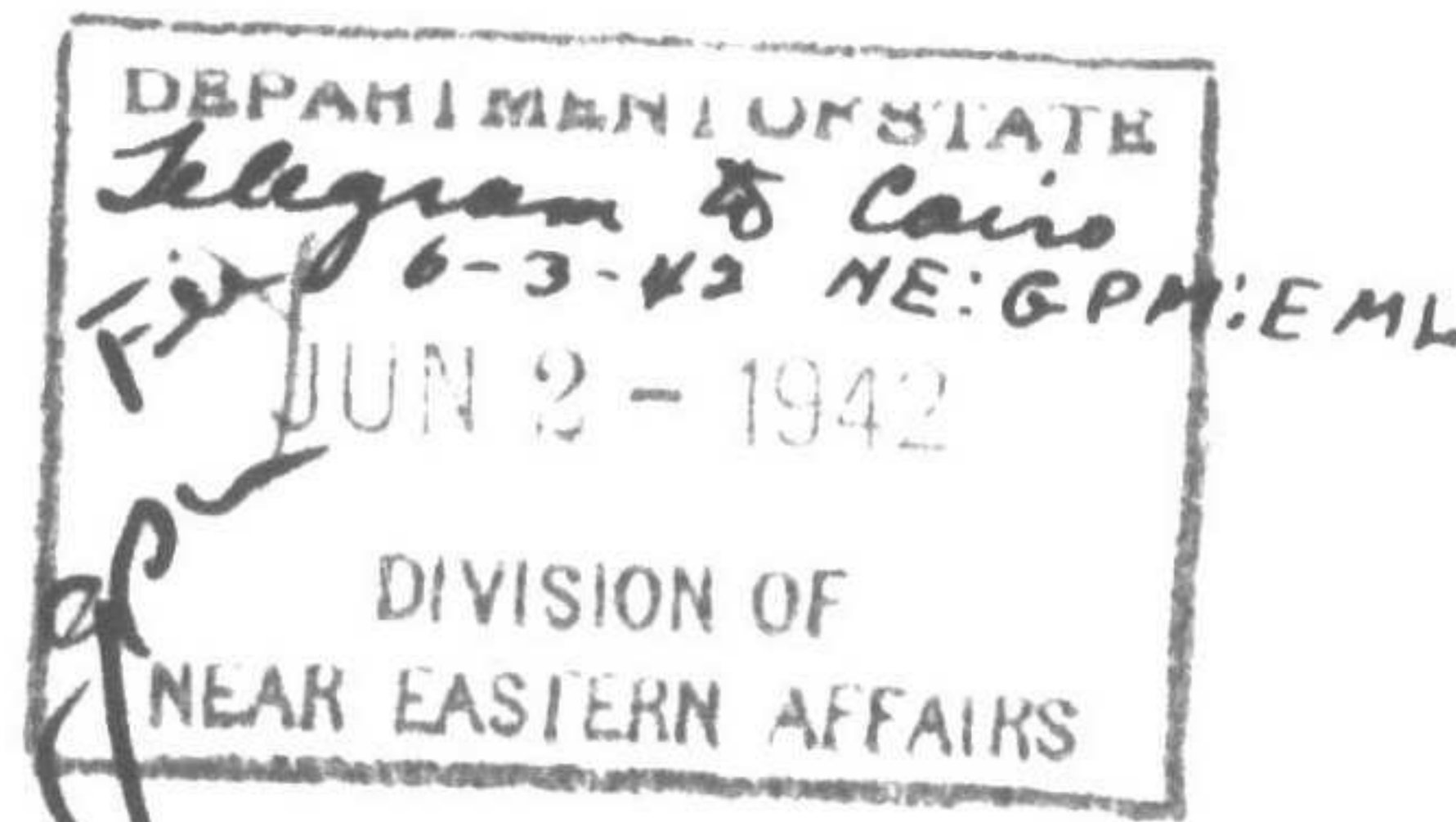
Dated May 31, 1942

Rec'd 1:45 p.m., June 1

FROM

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

899, May 31, noon.



The following message is transmitted at the  
request of the Legation Jidda:

"FROM TWITCHELL:

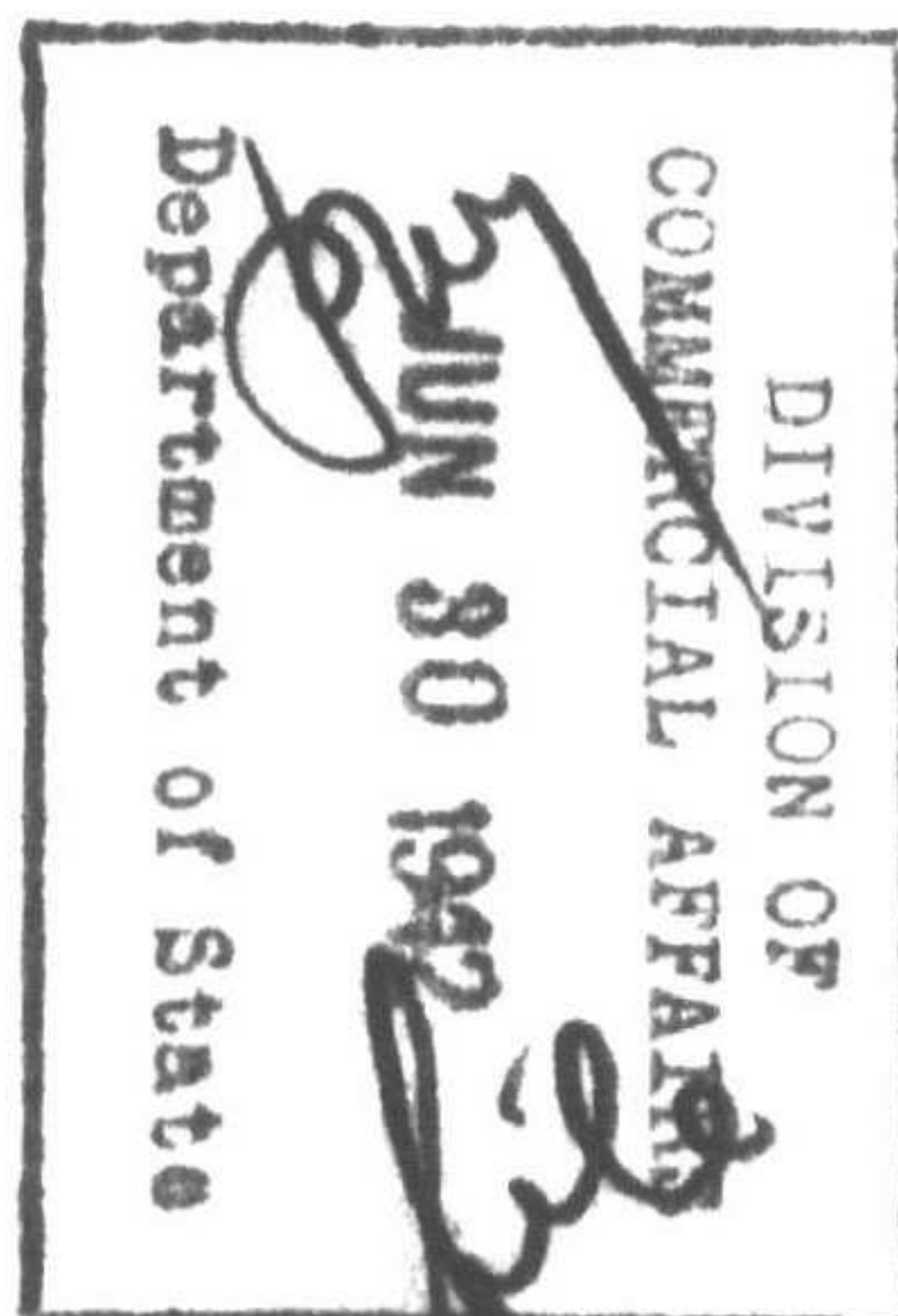
Saudi Government wishes 35 tons federation and  
10 tons early barren wheat acclimated Salt River Valley,  
Arizona also one quarter federation each of 2 best  
varieties barley to be recommended by University of  
Arizona also one million pounds each double dwarf  
milo maize and higera for planting one thousand acres.  
Suggest all seed be treated for smut. Strong double  
sacking essential. Saudi Government is also sending  
for similar amounts Egyptian and Sindi Indian seed  
wheat. United States Agricultural Mission recommends  
every effort be made with United States State and  
Agricultural Departments also MESC to supply the above  
to arrive Rastanura Iranian Gulf or Jidda or Port  
Sudan by October at latest. Saudi Government will make  
payment through Guaranty Trust Company of New York as  
may be specified unless United States Government wishes  
to donate".

KIRK

EDA

890f.61a

WYX  
OK  
0-1-1-2  
6



890f.61A/19

PS/MLN



✓ PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

www-8b  
TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

CLASS

RESTRICTED

Restricted

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to  
\$

Department of State

Washington.

✓ AMERICAN LEGATION

CAIRO (EGYPT)

539  
Your 899, May 31, noon.

It is suggested that the Saudi seed requirements from the United States be cleared with the MESC to ensure that the provision of the necessary shipping space will be supported by the American and British authorities concerned. Telegraph decision when reached.

Agriculture believes that the desired seed is available but is making inquiries to establish this point. It will also furnish estimate of the cost.

Agriculture states that the usual procedure in such cases is to acquire and plant small quantities and to use the seed obtained from such experimental plantings for commercial expansion. However, the large quantities now desired indicate a desire to proceed with large commercial plantings without loss of time. Agriculture does not question the judgment of the

Agricultural

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

890F.61A/19

PS/SGB



PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

## TELEGRAM SENT

### Department of State

Washington.

TO BE TRANSMITTED

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

CLEAR

PARTIAL

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Departments:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to

\$

-2-

Agricultural Mission but would be interested to learn  
of its reasons for wishing to inaugurate large-scale  
commercial production forthwith.

Hull  
da

CR  
JUN 4 1942

gph  
NE: GPM: EML

890F.61A/19

DE  
JUV

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_



890 f. 61a/19

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to

\$ 19-110/30028, Defense Aid  
Services and Expenses, (allotment to State 1941-1943)  
allocation no. 738.

AMLEGATION,

Washington,

June 17, 1942

1 P.M.

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
SECRET  
CONFIDENTIAL  
☒ RESTRICTED  
CLEAR  
PARTAIR

CAIRO.

637

Your 899, May 31, noon and 1005, June 16, 9 a.m.

Department of Agriculture communicated request for seed to their correspondent at the University of Arizona who has obtained the following offer based on your 899 from the Advance Seed Company of Phoenix:

Able to supply immediately 35 tons of state certified white federation wheat seed at \$3 per cwt FOB California shipping point. 50 (repeat 50) tons state certified early baart wheat seed at \$3 per cwt FOB Arizona shipping point. 500 pounds each of arivat and vaughn barley at \$2.25 per cwt FOB Arizona shipping point. The state certified hegari and double dwarf milo is all moved. However, can furnish one million pounds each Arizona hegari and milo good seed stock at \$2 per cwt FOB Arizona shipping points. All above subject further confirmation and when quantity needed is determined prompt shipment can be made.

Department is asking Despatch Agent at New York to handle shipment and requesting him to state what

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

890F.61A/19

P S/GH



PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

## TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

CLEAR

PARTIAL

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to

\$

## Department of State

-2-

Washington.

arrangements should be made for payment and what shipping and insurance instructions he requires from the Agricultural Mission or Saudi Arab Government. He is also being asked to estimate transportation costs for 50 tons of seed. His observations will be telegraphed when received. In replying thereto, Agricultural Mission will doubtless wish to restate and confirm amounts and varieties required.

There are no ascertainable United States government funds which can be used to purchase or ship the seed. Agriculture considers that cash payment will be required prior to shipment from interior loading points. It is suggested that the support of the MEBC for shipping space for 50 tons of seed be obtained without awaiting explanation of the Agricultural Mission.

1 Repeat to Jidda no. 12

Hall  
Rear

✓  
KSA  
JUN 30 1942  
890F.61A/19

NE:GPM:RED

55  
FA  
608

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_



June 30, 1944

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/19

My dear Mr. Fyfe:

This Department has organized and sent to Saudi Arabia an Agricultural Mission to investigate conditions and to report to the Government of that country on ways and means for agricultural development.

The Legation at Jidda recently transmitted a message for Mr. Twitchell, the chief of the Mission, asking that a total of approximately fifty tons of assorted varieties and quantities of wheat, barley and grain sorghum seed be sent. An inquiry made through the Department of Agriculture indicates that the seed can be supplied by the Advance Seed Company, Phoenix, Arizona, which has made quotations F.O.B. shipping points in Arizona for all of the amounts and varieties desired with the exception of the largest item, thirty-five tons of a certain type of wheat seed. In this instance the quotation is made F.O.B. California shipping point. As this Government has no funds which can be used for purchasing or shipping the seed, payment will have to be made by the Saudi Arab Government. However, we are anxious to facilitate the work of the Agricultural Mission and to extend courtesies to the Saudi Arab Government in every possible way, and should like to inquire whether your office would be willing to handle the purchase and shipment of the seed.

We are now informing the Legation at Jidda of the offer of the Advance Seed Company, from which the Agricultural Mission will be able to form an accurate idea of the cost of the seed F.O.B. interior shipping points. In order that the Agricultural Mission may be in a position to make a comprehensive recommendation to the Government of Saudi Arabia, we should appreciate it if you could furnish us

with

Mr. Howard Fyfe,  
Despatch Agent,  
45 Broadway,  
New York, New York.

890F.61A/19

PS/TEL



with an estimate of the cost of shipping and insuring the seed to Ras Tanura on the Persian Gulf, Jidda, or Port Sudan, preferably one of the two former, and also let us know what you require in the way of shipping instructions, as well as the financial arrangements you require to meet the cost of the seed, shipping, insurance and incidental expenses. We are now informing the Legation at Jidda of our assumption that cash payment for the seed will be required prior to shipment from interior leading points, and we are also requesting the Legation at Cairo to obtain the support of the Middle East Supply Center for the allotment of shipping space from the United States to one of the points above mentioned for fifty tons of seed.

On receiving information from you as to your requirements in regard to shipping instructions and financial arrangements, we shall be glad to telegraph them to the Legation at Jidda for transmission to the Agricultural Mission. The latter desires the seed to arrive by October at the latest. The Mission also has stated that the Saudi Arab Government proposes to make payment through the Guaranty Trust Company of New York in such manner as the agency handling the matter may specify.

Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

✓  
CR  
JUN 30 1942

gph  
NE:GPM:RED

6/27/42

J.S.  
FA  
End

A true copy of  
the signed orig-  
inal.



~~NE~~

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

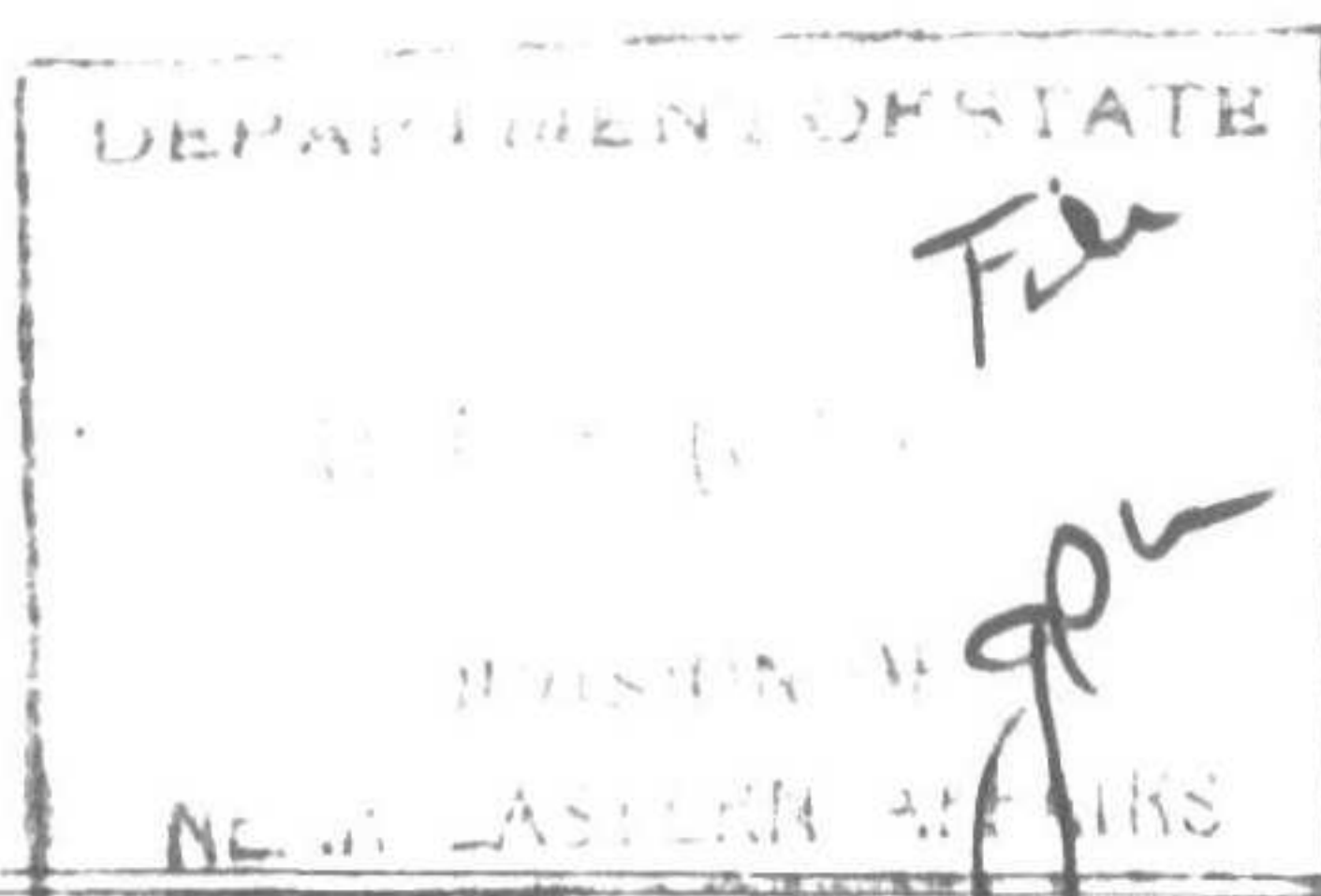
*Memorandum of Conversation*  
(Telephone)

DATE: June 3, 1942

SUBJECT: Grain Seed Desired by Saudi Arab Government.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Allee,  
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations,  
Department of Agriculture.  
Mr. Merriam.

COPIES TO:



GPO 1-1403

6907 612/19

With reference to Cairo's telegram no. 899 of May 31, noon, 1942, I informed Mr. Allee that as a first step we expected to telegraph to the Legation at Cairo suggesting that the Saudi Arab Government's requirement of grain seed from the United States be cleared through the Middle East Supply Center at Cairo, in order that we could be sure of the support of the British authorities in obtaining the necessary shipping space.

In response to questions, Mr. Allee stated as follows:

He did not doubt that the necessary quantities were available, but in order to be absolutely sure, he would make inquiries. The quantities desired were so large that they seemed to indicate an intention to deal with an emergency situation by large commercial plantings. The usual practice is to obtain, say, fifty bushels each of the various types of seed desired, plant them, and expand into commercial production with the seed produced by the crop. This procedure, of course, involves the loss of a season. Mr. Allee did not question Mr. Hamilton's judgment in the matter, but stated that it would nevertheless be of interest to ascertain why commercial production

RECEIVED  
JUN 6 1942  
PS/LIC

was

FW 890F.61A/19

PS/LIC



was wanted at once. He promised to let me know definitely whether the seed could be supplied, as well as an estimate of the cost, as soon as possible. He added that as the Saudi Arab Government had not established its credit with the seed producers, he thought payment would be required prior to shipment.



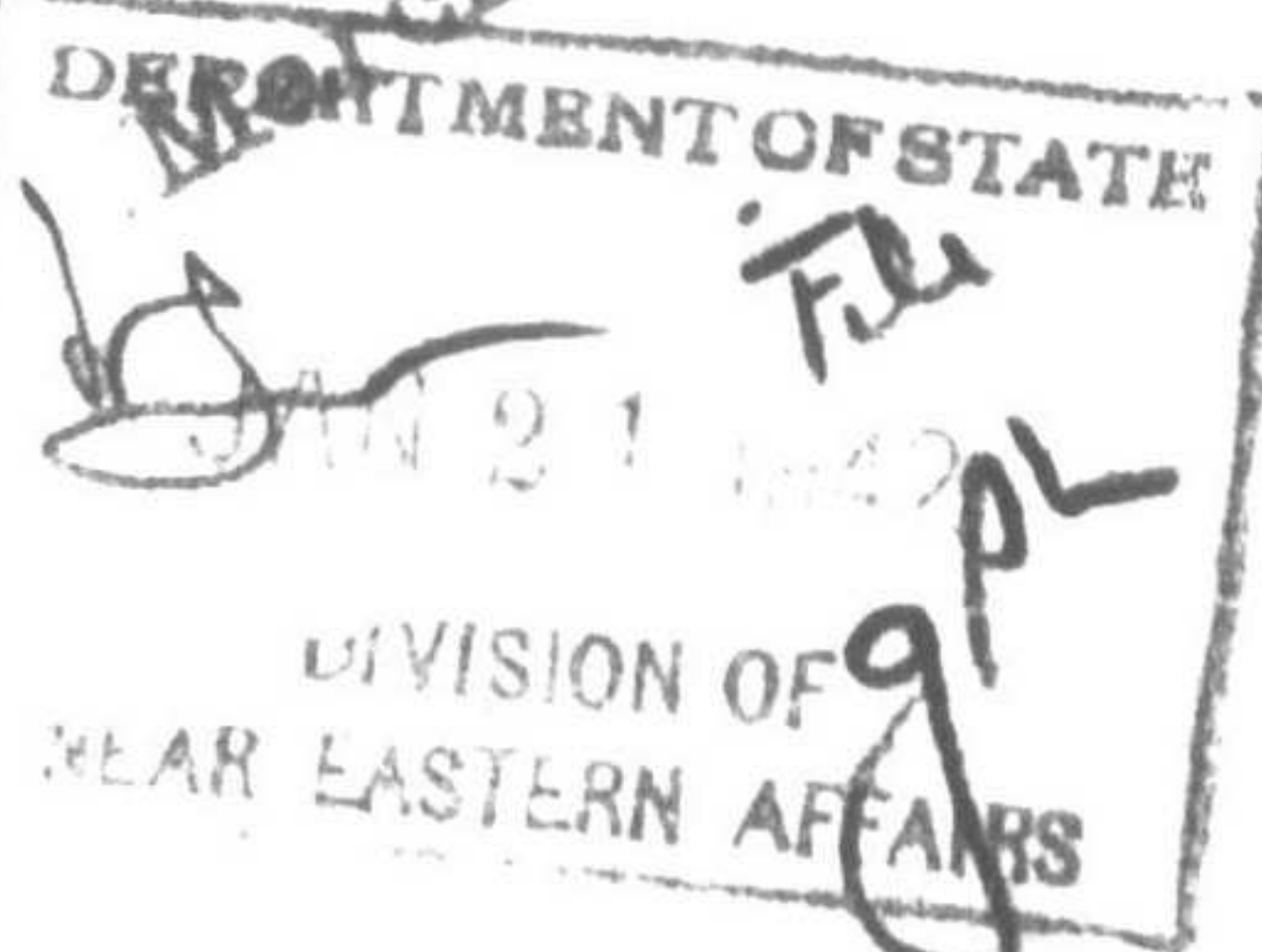


*File*  
DIVISION OF FOREIGN  
SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JAN 17 1942



*890 F. 51/44*  
My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have received your letter of January 12 (your file NE 890 F. 51/44), with further reference to the detail of an engineer to make an irrigation survey in Saudi, Arabia.

This Department earnestly desires to be of as much assistance as possible in connection with the proposed mission to Saudi, Arabia, and will arrange to detail Mr. Albert L. Wathen, Director of Irrigation, Office of Indian Affairs, to make the irrigation study. I agree fully with your suggestion that this Government should stand the expenses of this mission to Arabia and this Department will be glad to donate Mr. Wathen's services if suitable arrangements can be legally made for compensation for his services in this behalf. Under appropriations now available to this Department, it is not believed that such funds could be used for this purpose. Would it be possible to take care of the matter through an allocation from the President's emergency fund made available by the Independent Offices Appropriation Act of 1942?

If Mr. Wathen is to be detailed to this duty, early advice would be appreciated as to the date you desire his services to be made available and the approximate time this detail will require. I assume that the mission should either start promptly, in order to complete a satisfactory reconnaissance prior to the hot season, or postpone it until after September 1.

In addition to the irrigation and agricultural experts mentioned in your letter, I would suggest that you arrange to send Mr. K. S. Twitchell, who, in his capacity of informal representative of the King of Saudi, Arabia, originally suggested the advisability of this mission. I understand that Mr. Twitchell's services would probably be made available by the

MAY 13 1942

FILED

PS/PM

PS/PM

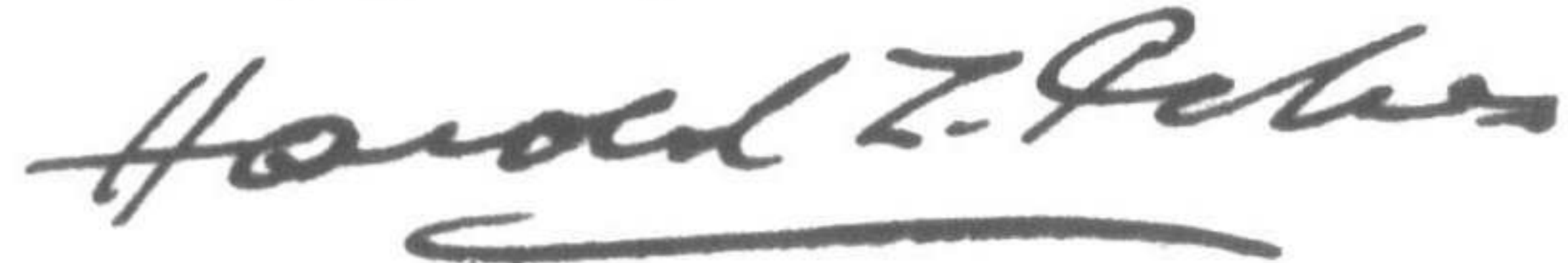
890 F. 51/44

890 F. 51/44



American Smelting and Refining Company upon request, and due to his intimate knowledge of the country, its people and their customs, gained over a long period of service there, I believe his presence there would be not only invaluable, but virtually essential to the real success of the mission.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Harold Z. Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent horizontal line under the name.

Secretary of the Interior.

Honorable Cordell Hull,

Secretary of State.



March 17, 1942

In reply refer to  
FA 890F.51/46

My dear Mr. Secretary:

890 F. 61A  
In a letter of January 17, 1942 you advised the Department of State that the Department of the Interior would arrange to detail Mr. Albert L. Wathen, Director of Irrigation, Office of Indian Affairs, for duty as a member of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia. There is enclosed a copy of the instructions that have been issued to Mr. Wathen authorizing the payment of his salary and expenses while he is on this detail from the funds that have been allocated to the Department of State for the expenses of the Mission.

According to present plans, the members of the Mission will leave Washington on March 19 for Cairo. As stated in the instructions to Mr. Wathen the Department of State will reimburse the Department of the Interior

The Honorable

Harold L. Ickes,

Secretary of the Interior,

890F.51/46  
890F.61A/20  
890F.61A PS/EM

PS/PN



Interior for his salary while he is on this detail. I understand that his salary is at present at the rate of \$6,000 per annum but that it will probably be increased to \$6,500 per annum in the near future. Bills for Mr. Wathen's salary on form no. 1080 will be met promptly by the Department of State.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

G. Howland Shaw  
Assistant Secretary

Enclosure:

Copy of instructions  
To Mr. Wathen,  
February 27, 1942.

CR

MAR 16 1942



FA: CWS: LSM

3/14/42

NE

3/3

DA





DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

1942 FEB 2 PM 2 58

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

File  
DIVISION OF FOREIGN  
SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

January 31, 1942.

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to your letter of January 12 (NE 890F.51/44), in which the Department of Agriculture is asked to supply an agricultural expert for the Government of Saudi Arabia and to make suggestions in regard to the manner in which the major portion of the expenses could be met by this government.

The obvious importance of the assignment has prompted this Department to explore all possible sources of suitable personnel. Several individuals are under consideration, and it is believed that an appointee can be suggested within two or three days.

As to manner of financing, the Department of Agriculture has no funds which can be legally used for the purposes envisaged. It is understood that the President's emergency funds can be used for such purposes, and it is suggested that an effort be made to finance the agricultural expert from this source.

Sincerely yours,

*Erwin B. Hill*  
Assistant Secretary

MAY 13 1942

RECEIVED

PS/KEEP

PS/PN

890F.51/47

890F.61A/21

890F.61A

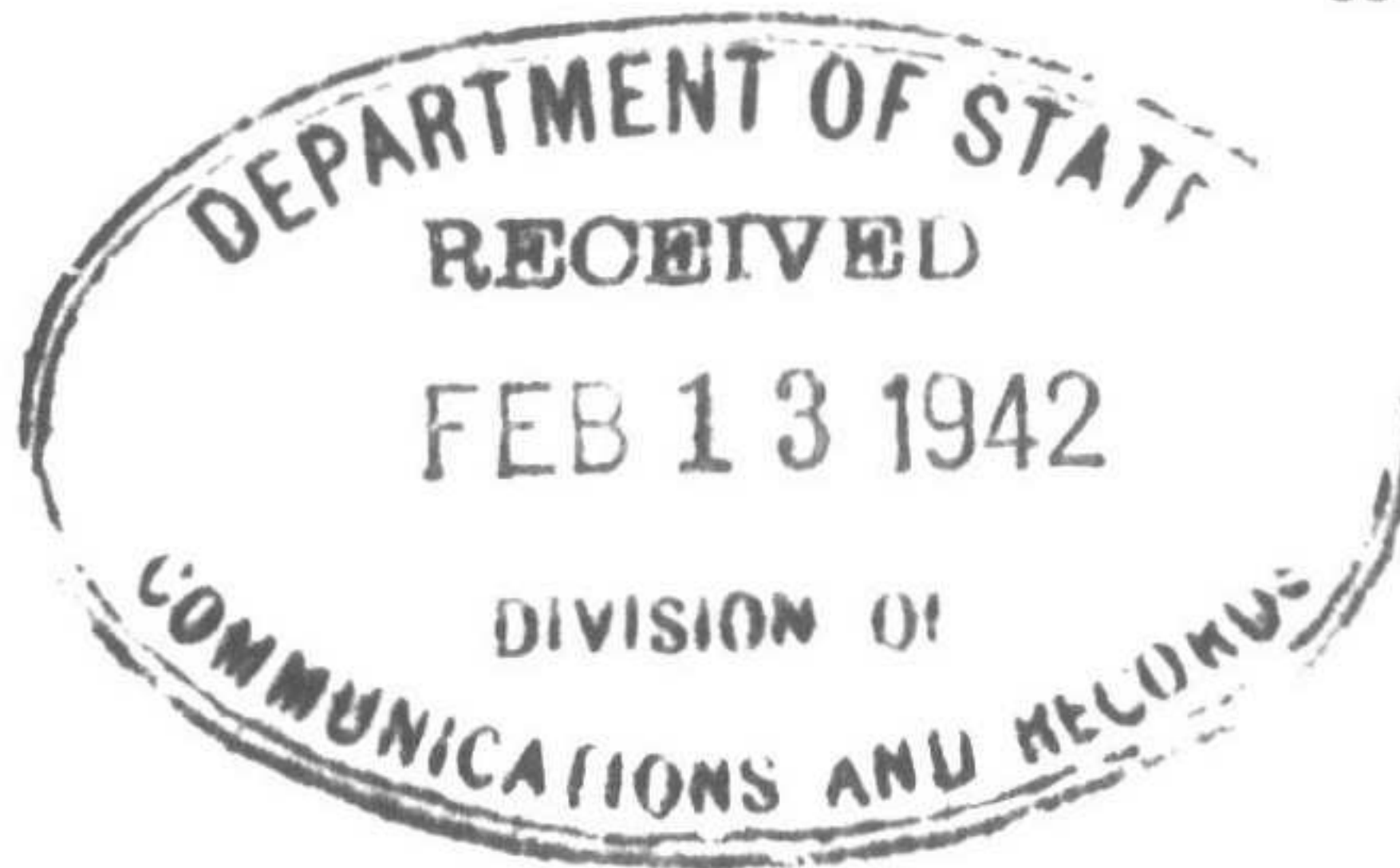
#E  
FA

See letter to Under Secretary of Agriculture  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Applying drafty 3-14-42 BWS





DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON



*File*  
DIVISION OF FOREIGN  
SERVICE ADMINISTRATION  
*Letter drafted to Mr. Appleby 3/14/42*  
MAR 14 1942  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
March 17, 1942  
February 12, 1942.

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to your letter of January 12, 1942, (ME 890F.51/44), in which the Department of Agriculture is asked to supply an agricultural expert for the Government of Saudi Arabia and to make suggestions in regard to the manner in which the major portion of the expenses could be met by this Government, and to our letter of January 31 on the same subject.

890F.61A  
The Soil Conservation Service of this Department has consented to make available for the assignment Mr. James Guy Hamilton, Senior Agronomist from their field office in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Hamilton's qualifications for the position have been discussed with Mr. K. S. Twitchell who, we understand, will also be a member of the mission. Mr. Hamilton has been instructed to hold himself in readiness to report for duty as soon as this Department is advised that the funds are available for his employment and travel.

Mr. Hamilton's present salary is in the neighborhood of \$5,000 per year and it is presumed that the State Department will make arrangements for him to receive the usual \$7.00 per diem. It would also appear desirable to provide at least \$200 for the purchase of necessary scientific equipment.

The Department of Agriculture will be pleased to make available to the members of the Mission any of its facilities which may be useful to them in preparation for the work they will undertake in Arabia. Arrangements for the Mission's needs in that respect can be made through the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul H. Appleby*  
Under Secretary

MAY 13 1942

890F.51/44

890F.61A/22

RECEIVED

PS/PN



RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1942 MAR 3 PM 3 58

RECEIVED  
MINING  
AND RECORDS

AMERICAN SMELTING AND REFINING COMPANY  
MINING DEPARTMENT  
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

H. A. GUESS  
VICE PRESIDENT

March 6, 1942

G. Howland Shaw, Esq.  
Assistant Secretary  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Assistant Secretary  
of State

MAR 6 1942

MR. SHAW

T. D. C. R. for  
indexing and  
filing. bnd  
MAR 9 1942  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS

Dear Sir:

8908.51/48  
I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated  
February 27th, arriving in New York on March 4th, appointing  
me Chief of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.  
Your instructions are duly noted.

8908.51/48  
I also acknowledge the receipt of two transportation requests  
which I am using from New York to Washington, as the letter was  
only received by me in New York, being addressed to American  
Smelting and Refining Company's Office here.

I shall appreciate reimbursement for the railway fare from  
Burlington, Vermont to New York City which was \$7.04.

Very truly yours,

*K. S. Twitchell*

K. S. Twitchell

N.B. Mr. Twitchell has been told to  
take the item of \$7.04 up in his account  
when he presents his bill for per diem.  
F.A. Corbitt

APR 23 1942

8908.51A/23

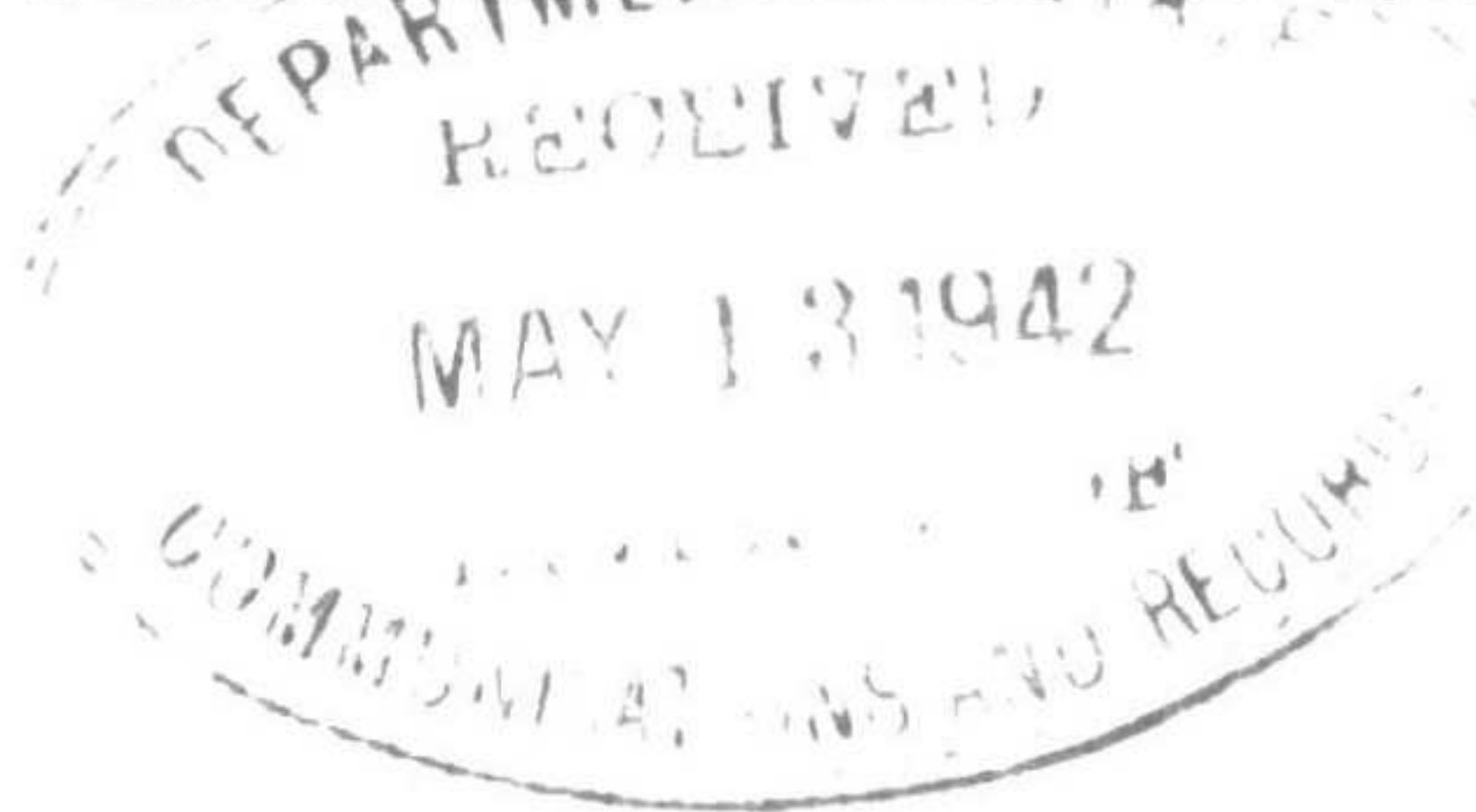
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OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



March 18, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of this Department is very much interested in the agricultural mission now preparing to proceed to Saudi-Arabia. We shall be grateful for any information on the agriculture of that area which the Mission will find possible to transmit to us in the course of its work.

Specifically, we shall be especially interested in basic information on crop and animal enterprises including the crops grown, yields, and methods used and the number and quality of animals kept; methods of animal husbandry employed; and the production secured. We all realize that no statistical information is available and hence regional observations and evaluations will be valuable. We are also interested in learning about the land-holding system, relationships between owners and tenants or laborers, and of course peasant type individual farming, if and where practiced. We are also interested in the basic composition of the diet in those areas and the extent to which the region normally depends on imported supplies of food. Any information the Mission can give us on marketing and especially foreign trade in agricultural commodities will be of great value, especially where related directly or indirectly to this country.

We are intensely interested in the development of the work of the Mission as to introduction of new crops or varieties and as to the results obtained and would much appreciate information along this line. This will, of course, be of the greatest value to various specialists in the Department of Agriculture.

L. A. Wheeler  
Director

100-4-1

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890F.61 A / 23 1/2

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
File  
Copies delivered to Saudi Arabia 3/18/42  
-found Dr. Trenchard that he could make no promises  
returned to L. A. but  
JUN 29 1942  
JUN 29 1942



MA  
6/11



70f 61a

Laird Archer, Esquire  
Foreign Director,  
Near East Foundation  
17 West 46th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Archer:

I thank you very much for your letter dated March 13th,  
and stating that you are interested in our Mission and  
will be glad to cooperate with us if and when desired.

I shall be only too glad to communicate with you on my  
return from this Mission, but until that time it is im-  
possible to make any plans or definite statements as  
everything depends on the results of our present Mission.  
I appreciate very much your interest, and hope we may be  
successful in helping a great country to develop and in-  
crease its prosperity and the wellbeing of its inhabi-  
tants. Their King is one of the outstanding figures of  
present times, I believe.

Kind regards, and anticipating meeting you some time in  
the future,

Yours sincerely,

K. S. Twitchell  
c/o The American Legation  
Cairo, Egypt

✓ Copy to:

Mr. Gordon Merriam  
Division of Near Eastern Affairs  
State Department

Dr. John A. Wilson (Near Eastern Div.)  
Chief, Coordinator of Information

Enclosure: copy of letter from  
Near East Foundation, dated 3/13/42

MAY 13 1941

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DS/PN



NEAR EAST FOUNDATION  
17 West 46th Street  
NEW YORK

March 13, 1942

Mr. K. S. Twitchell, Esq.  
Willard Hotel  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Twitchell:

A copy of Dr. Allen's exchange of correspondence with you has come to Mr. E. C. Miller, Executive Secretary of Near East Foundation and myself. As Dr. Allen says, we are interested in any of the developments in the Arab field, particularly in anything which will assist in the war efforts of that general area as well as for the long pull.

As Ralph Allee may have told you, one of our personnel, a California University man who is an Arab, is now Director of Agriculture for The Lebanon as well as adviser to the Department of Agriculture in Syria, and for some time we have been conducting courses and issuing bulletins which have been made use of in Transjordan as well. At one time we conducted a course in Agriculture for village school masters for the Palestine Government and as is our policy we successfully encouraged the adoption of this course as a permanent part of the educational program of that country and then withdrew to take up other work.

Although the situation as to military service naturally has affected our personnel availability, we think we might be able to find someone who would be interested in the follow-up program you have in mind. It would have to be a very seasoned personnel on entering a new field, someone with a good deal of discretion and balance as well as considerable agricultural and educational experience.

At any rate, we will be interested in your mission and in cooperating with you. If as your plans develop you would care to have us present the matter to our Board of Directors with the idea of assisting you in carrying out your program, we would be glad to bring up the matter for discussion if and when you are able to tell us more about it.

As you go about the Department of Agriculture you would find someone else who is somewhat familiar with our type of approach in W. C. Lowdermilk, Chief of Research Division, Soil Conservation Service.

Sincerely,

signed/ Laird Archer  
Foreign Director

LA:C

C O P Y



K. S. Twitchell, Esquire,  
Chief, United States Agricultural Mission  
to Saudi Arabia,  
Care of Department of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Reference is made to the Department's communication to you of February 27, 1942, in regard to your appointment as Chief, United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, and to communications of like date addressed to Mr. Albert L. Wathen and Mr. James G. Hamilton, respectively, in regard to their appointment as Members of this Mission.

As you are aware, the Mission has been created in response to a request from the Government of Saudi Arabia, in order to be of service to the Government and people of that country, and to promote good will between them and the Government and people of the United States. The principal duties of the Mission are to investigate the agricultural and related resources of Saudi Arabia, to conduct such experiments as may be possible in view of the limited time and funds at the Mission's disposal, and to furnish friendly counsel to the Saudi Arabian Government. The Department is convinced that the personal relationships which the Mission's personnel establishes with Saudi Arabian officials

890F.61A/24A  
240P S /PN



officials and individuals in civil life can play an important part in the success which the Department sincerely trusts will attend the Mission's work, and believes that these relationships should be carefully cultivated.

You are requested to inform the Department by telegraph of the Mission's arrival at Cairo and in Saudi Arabia. You should also report briefly by telegraph, if possible, at least once a month, after the Mission reaches the scene of its activities, in regard to its welfare, progress and plans. All telegraphic reports, as well as originals or copies of all reports or recommendations made to agencies of this Government or to the Saudi Arabian Government, as the case may be, copies of memoranda of important conversations, et cetera, should be transmitted by the nearest American consular or diplomatic officer. You should request the officer concerned to transmit written material under cover of transmitting despatches and to indicate therein the distribution of originals or copies to other interested agencies of the Government, as desired by those agencies or by the members of the Mission.

If you consider that the Department's instructions are necessary or desirable in any contingency, instructions should be requested, if practicable, through the channel above mentioned. You and the members of the Mission may, of course, feel free at all times to consult with the nearest American consular and diplomatic officer regarding  
any



any problems which arise.

You should so arrange matters that the Mission's work and its return to the United States will be carried out within the limitations of the funds now authorized. While the length of time during which the Mission will pursue its work is left to your discretion, subject to unforeseen or urgent contingencies which may arise, your decision in this regard will, of course, be governed by the foregoing consideration.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

A. A. BERLE, JR.

Assistant Secretary

*gpm*  
NE:GPM/CC  
3/18/42 *[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
PAFM

*A-S/E*  
*[Signature]*

*A-S*  
*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
MAR 18 1942 PM  
MAR 19 1942 PM

A true copy of  
the original  
[Signature]



F - C  
Cl. 12505-42

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF FOREIGN  
SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

*See note below*

*File*  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAR 28 1942

Department of State,

Office of Fiscal and Budget Affairs.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to letter of March 17, 1942, (F.A. 890F-51/43) addressed by the Assistant Secretary of State to the Secretary of the Interior, regarding the detail of Mr. Albert L. Wathen, Director of Irrigation, Office of Indian Affairs, for duty as a member of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi, Arabia.

The letter proposes adjustment of funds by billing on Form No. 1080, for Mr. Wathen's salary. If it can be satisfactorily arranged, this Office prefers advance payment as provided by Section 601 of the Economy Act, since this method will decrease materially the accounting details in connection with the case.

With your permission, this Office will initiate the necessary action to place the funds to our credit. Your early advice will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*A. W. T. Greenwood*  
Commissioner.

APR 6 1942

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*Mr. Wathen left Washington for Saudi Arabia on March 19, on which date his salary became a charge against the funds of the Mission.*  
*bnb.*

*I called Mr. Greenwood's office, referred to his last paragraph, and said the State Dept. would be glad to make an advance and we would wait for the action he says he will initiate. bnb from FA.*  
3-30-42.

890F-51/43  
890F-61A/25  
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# TELEGRAM RECEIVED

PMW

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (BR)

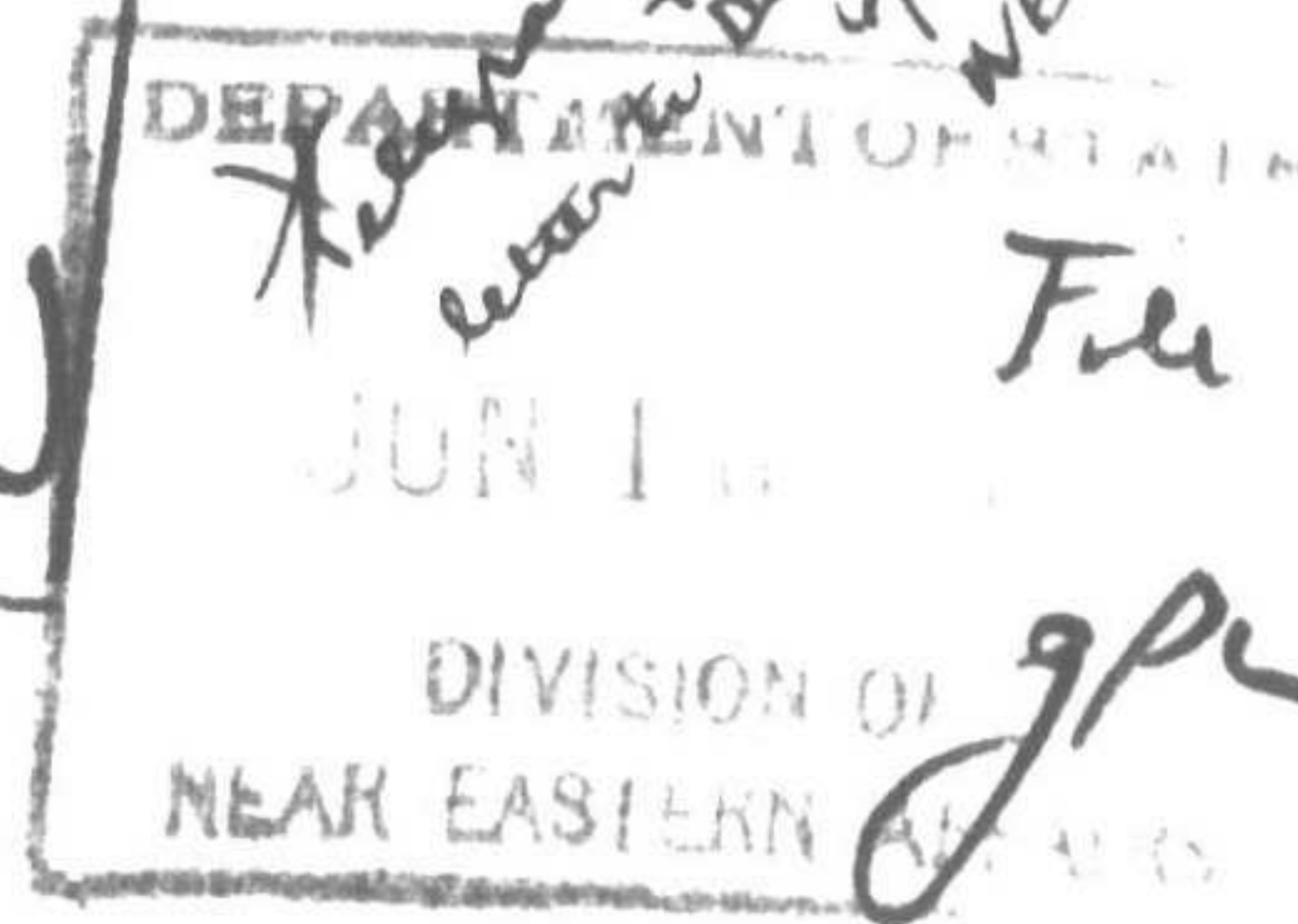
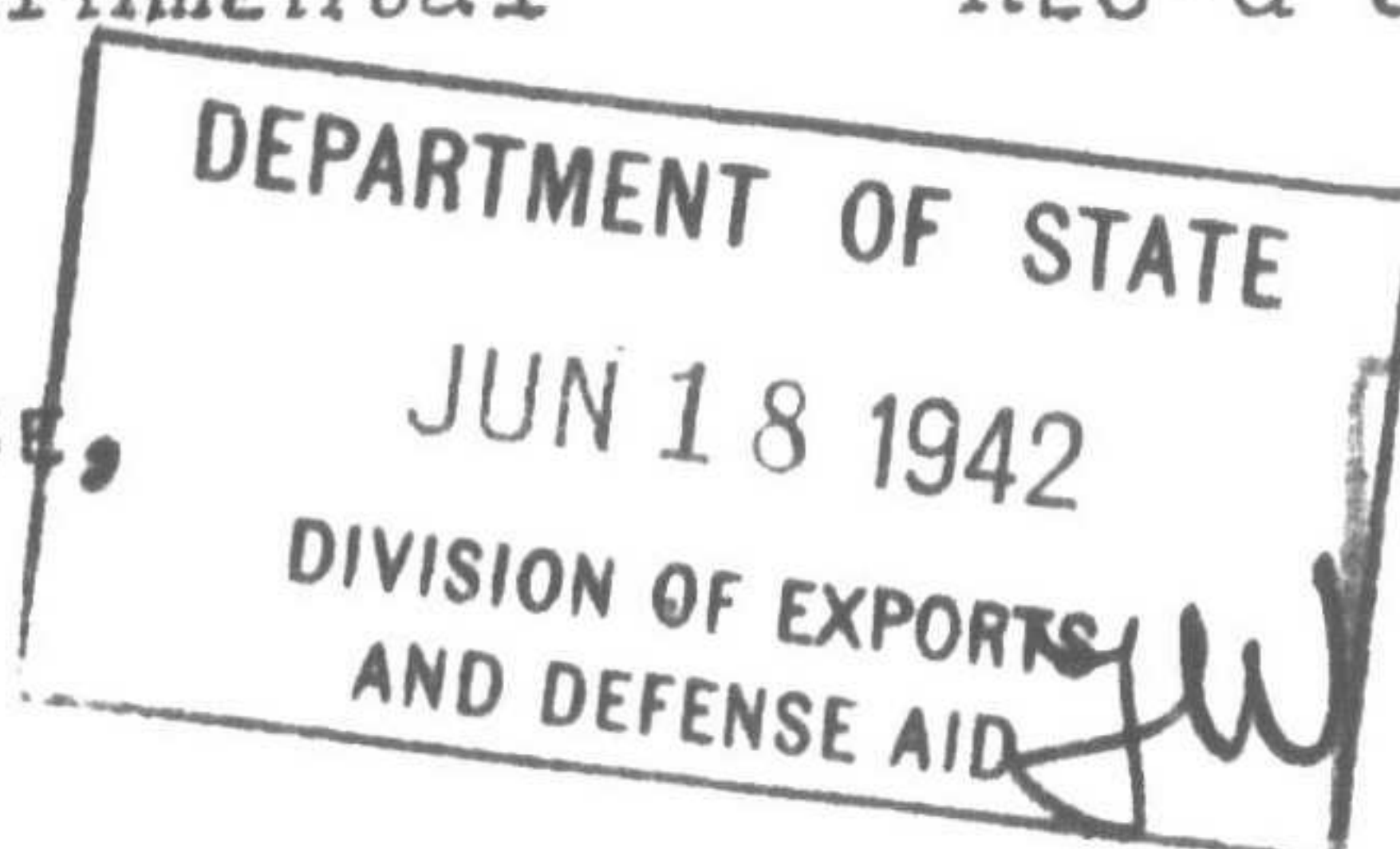
Cairo

FROM

Dated June 16, 1942

Rec'd 3:03 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.



1005, June 16, 9 a.m.

Department's 529, June 5, 10 p.m.

Legation at Jedda reports as follows.

"An error in enciphering Twitchell's telegram increased his request to one million pounds each double milo maize and higera while he actually asked for 100 pounds (repeat 100 pounds) each. He is being informed of the error since Agriculture's inquiry has been sent to him already".

In view of this large reduction in weight it is believed that there will be little difficulty in obtaining the support of the MESO for the necessary shipping space but before raising the question officially the Legation is awaiting receipt from the Agricultural Mission of the "reasons" referred to in the last sentence of the Department's telegram under reference.

KIRK

WSB

*Handwritten initials and date: 1/17/42*

*Handwritten note: Copy to Ag. on Dr. Twitchell's office 1/17/42*

*Handwritten note: Forward to Cairo + Despatch Agent by 4/27/42 WE 604/4250*

*Handwritten note: 890F.61a*

*Vertical stamp: JUN 19 1942*

**FILED**

890F.61A/26

PS/PLS

OCT 7 - 1942

**FILED**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

6 PM  
- NE

DIVISION OF FOREIGN SERVICE ADMINISTRATION  
June 19, 1942

AUG - 6 1942

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MEMORANDUM TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Attention: Mr. Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Near Eastern Division

890f. 61A/19



Reference is made to cable No. 899 dated May 31 from Cairo and to supplementary cable No. 1005 dated June 16 from Cairo.

We have referred the request for seed included to the Bureau of Plant Industry of this Department, and they have in turn communicated with their correspondents in the University of Arizona. As you will note, Dr. A. S. Hawkins, of the University of Arizona, has transmitted the request to the Advance Seed Company of Phoenix, Arizona. We believe that the quotations made by the Advance Seed Company are self explanatory.

L. A. Wheeler  
Director

Attachment ✓

JUL 6 - 1942

FILED

890F. 61A/27

PS/KN



# TELEGRAM RECEIVED



FA  
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FROM

DIVISION OF FOREIGN  
SERVICE ADMINISTRATION  
NE, June 20 '42.  
JUN 20 1942  
FA ANT  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PLAIN

Jidda

Dated June 17, 1942

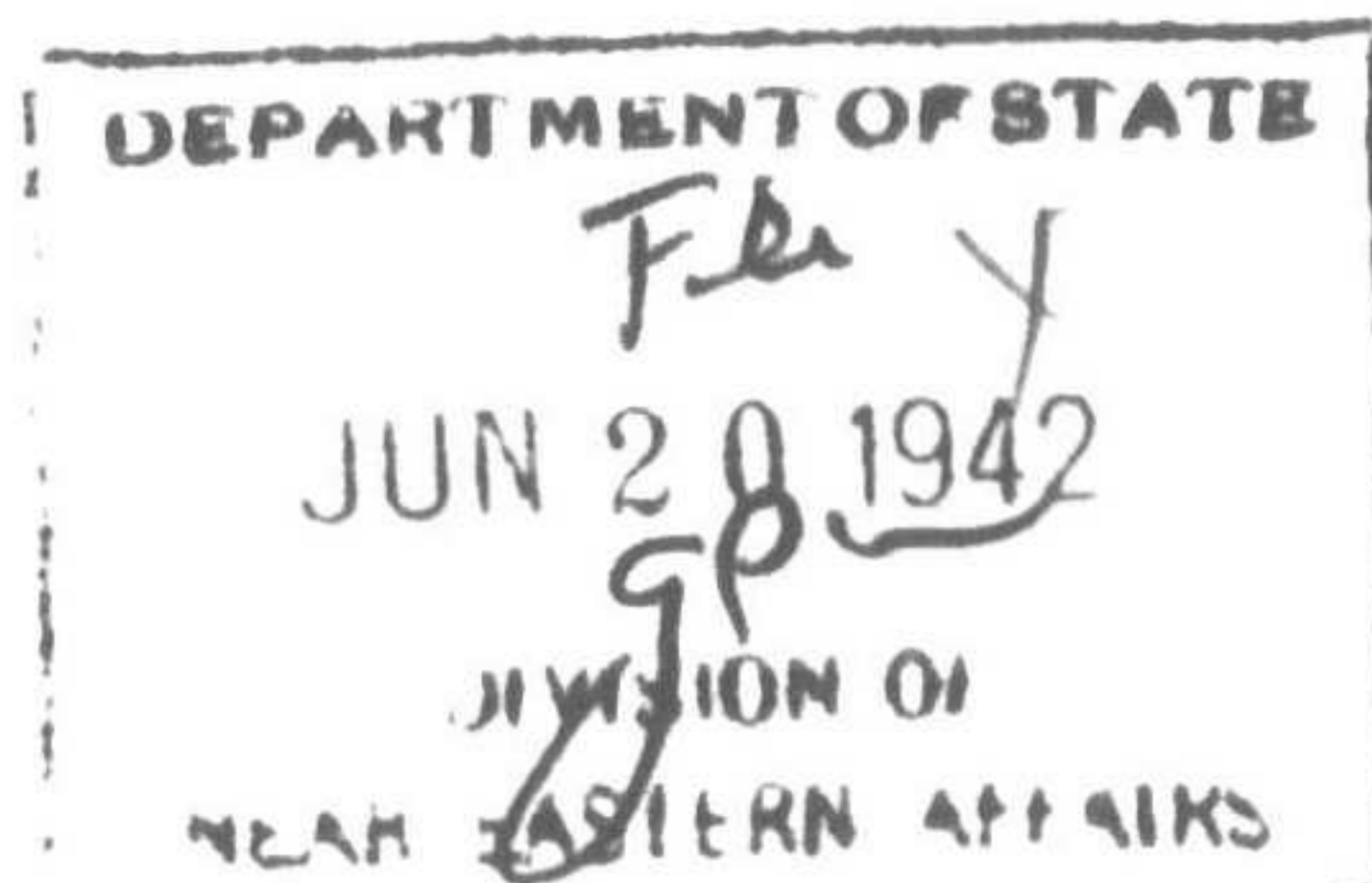
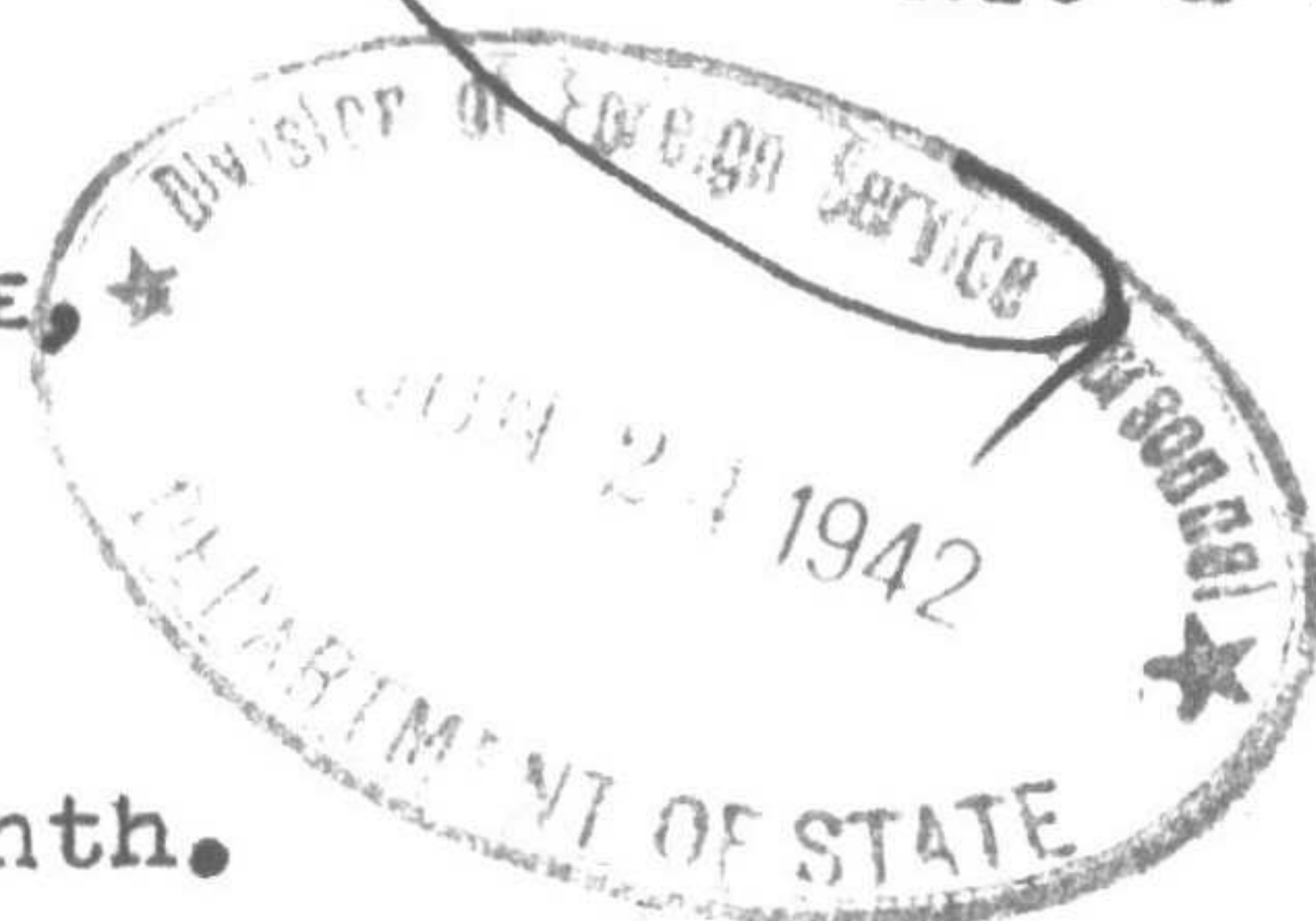
Rec'd 9:30 a.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

11a 813.

19, SEVENTEENTH.



890f. 61A /

The following is transmitted for Twitchell  
"Agricultural mission investigations in Riyadh,  
Alkharj, Qatik and Bahrein districts completed. In-  
tend visiting Hofuf and Jabrin as soon as J. G. Hamilton  
entirely recovers from attack benign tertiary malaria  
and Al Wathen from infected legs. Both convalescing  
satisfactorily. Will leave as soon as Doctor  
authorizes but recommend you ask Agriculture prepare  
for suitable replacement, including inoculations in  
case physician advises against Hamilton continuing  
expedition after our return from Hofuf, Jabrin trip."

MOOSE

DD

890f. 61A/27 1/2 PS/PLS

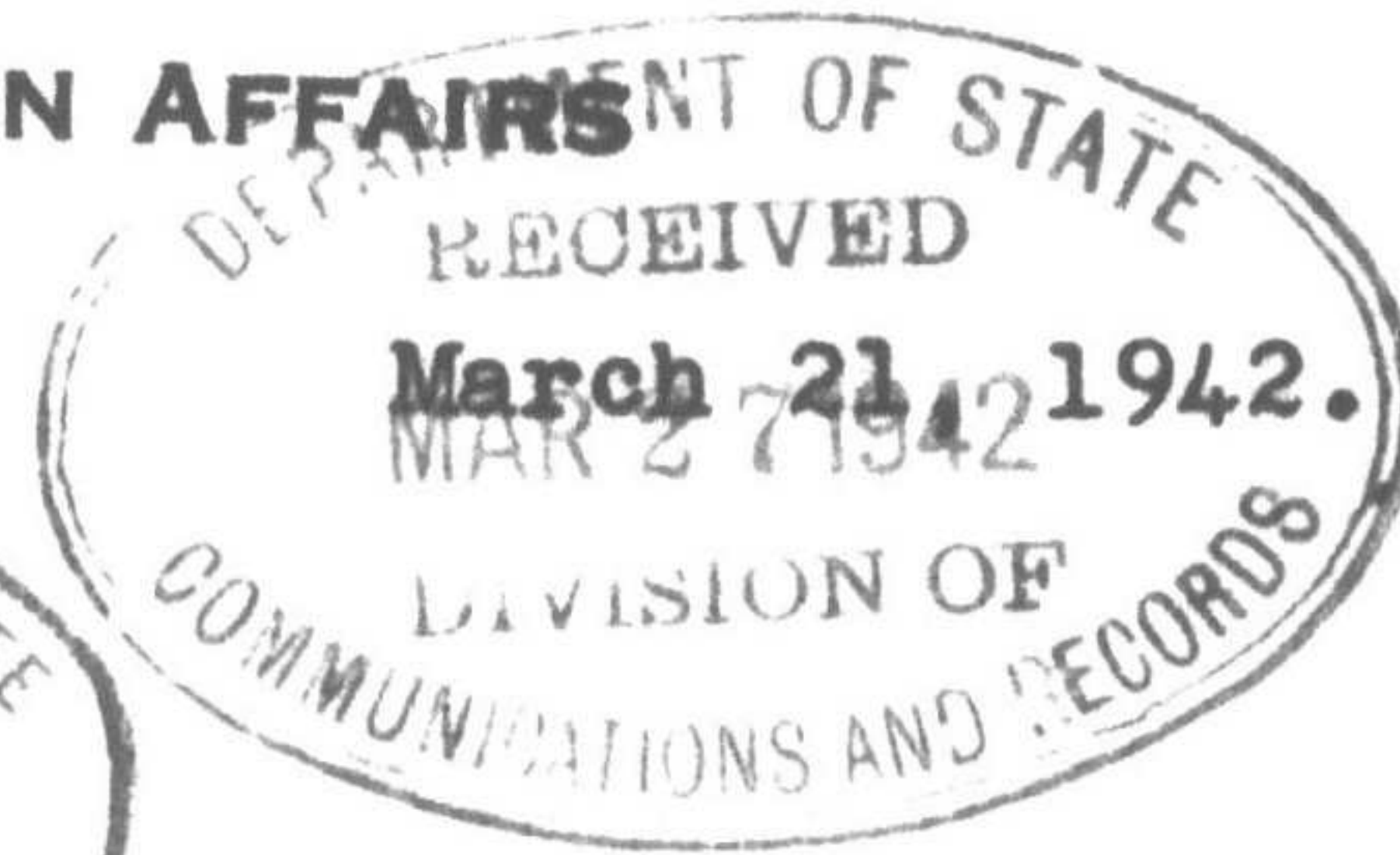
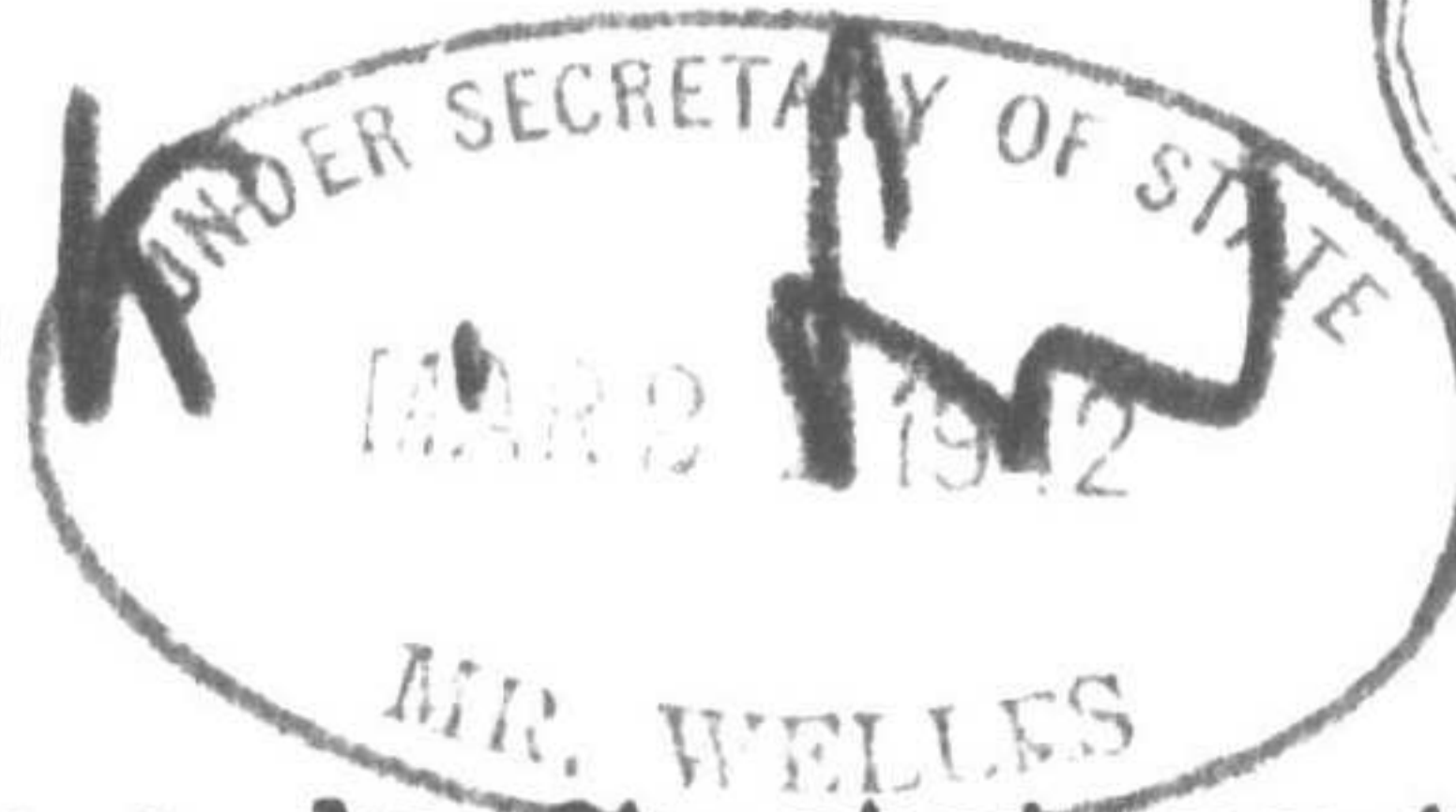
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

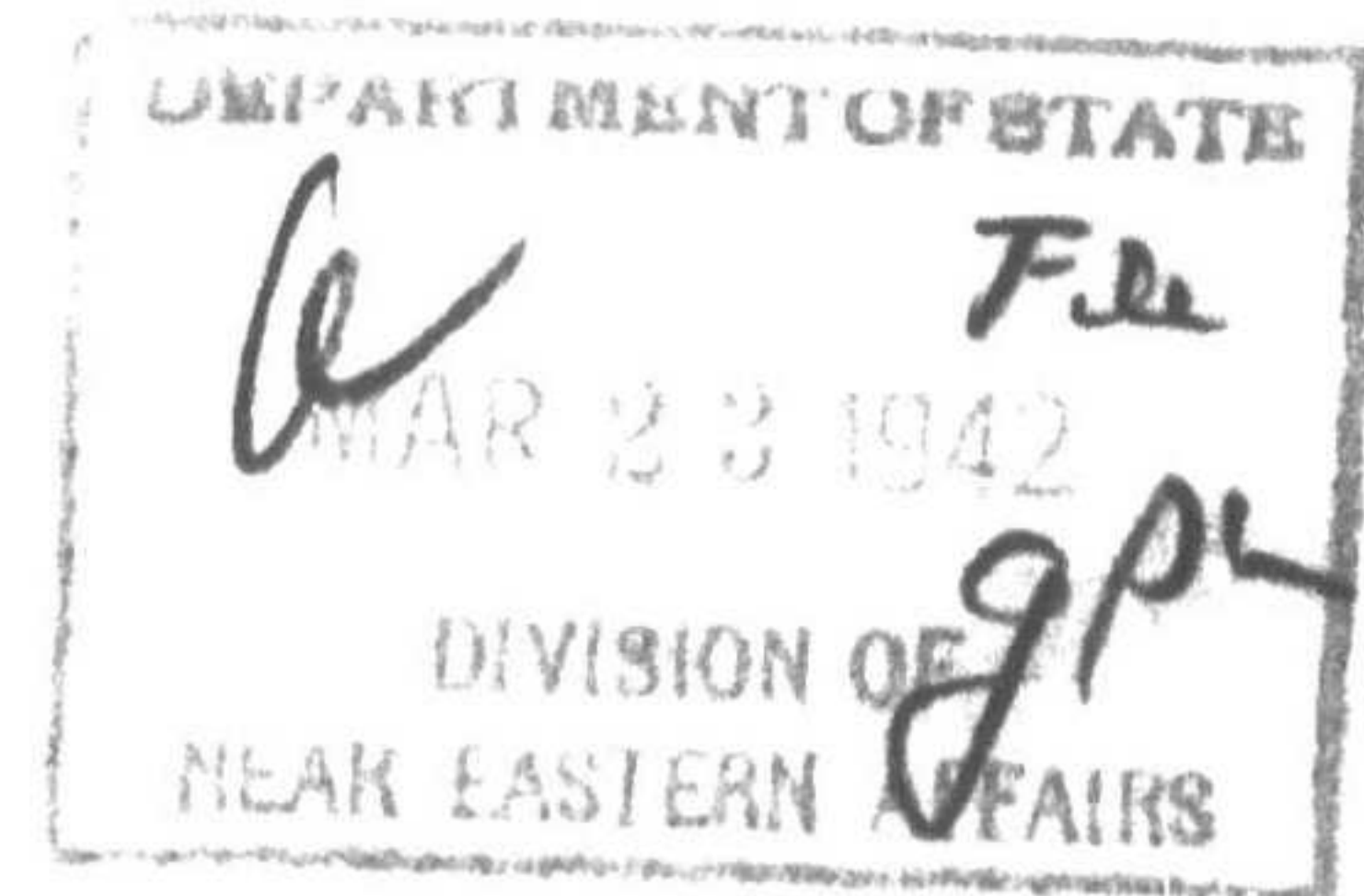
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

U  
Mr. Welles: *O.K.*



Attached is a draft statement to the press regarding the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia which we propose to release on March 25, provided you concur. The Mission left by air on March 19 and we should like to release the statement after it is well on its way but before it reaches Cairo, to anticipate the publicity which will probably occur when that point is reached.

*Paul H. Alling*  
Paul H. Alling



*gpc*  
NE: GPMerriam/GC



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JMB

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860F.61A/28

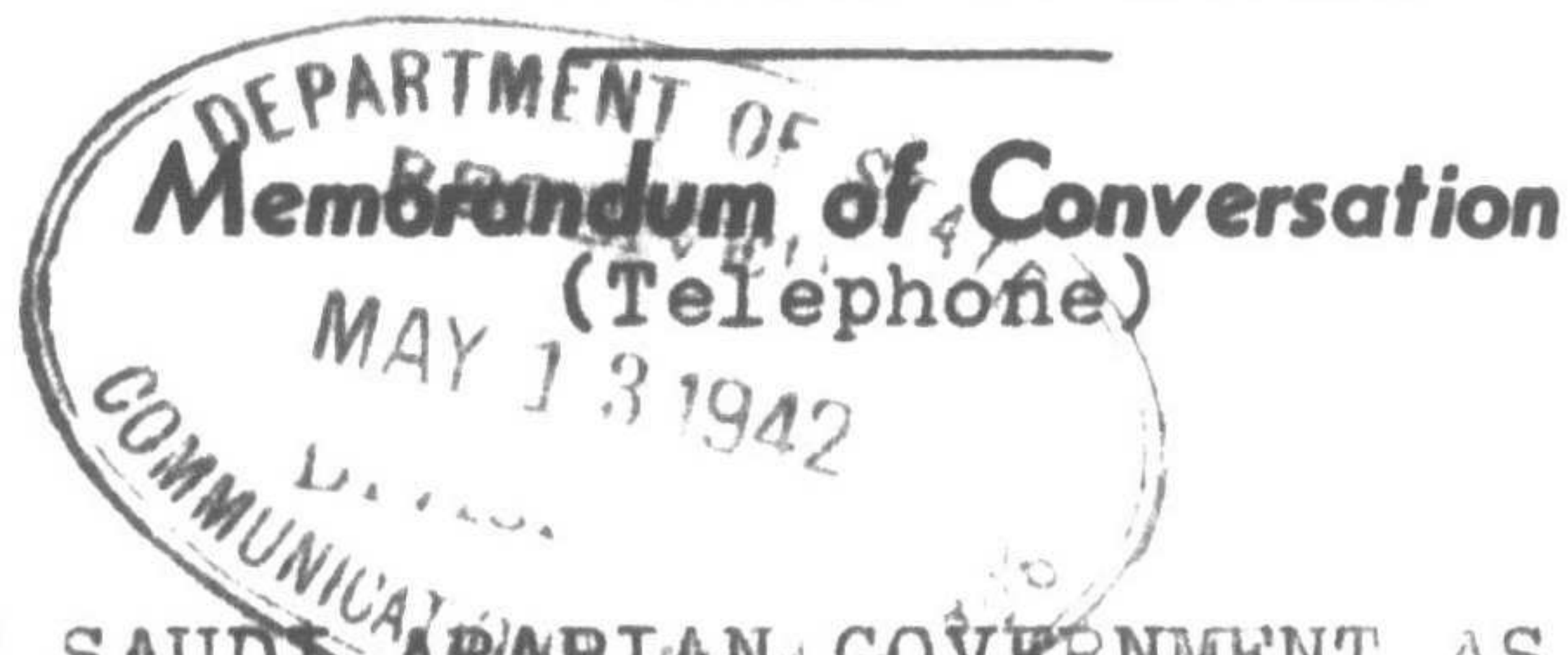
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~~NE~~



DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



DATE: January 2, 1942.

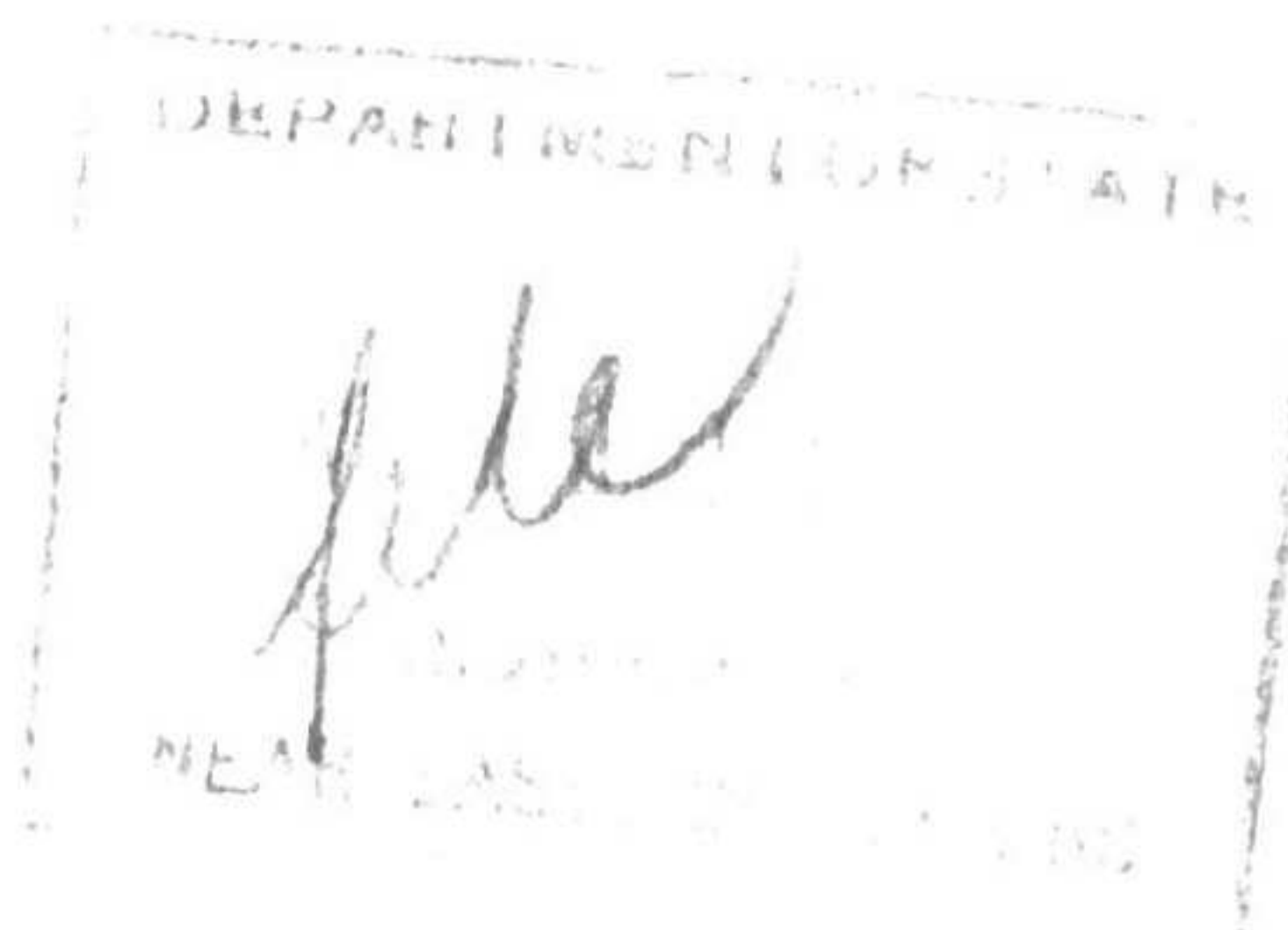
SUBJECT: INQUIRY OF SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT AS TO POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING AMERICAN EXPERTS ON AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

PARTICIPANTS: Major Sullivan, Executive Officer, United States Army North African Mission, War Department

Mr. Merriam

COPIES TO:

890F.61a



1-1403

In the course of a conversation with Major Sullivan, I said I thought he would be interested to know, for background purposes, of an inquiry which we had received from the Government of Saudi Arabia as to whether American experts on agricultural and irrigation matters could be made available for advisory purposes. I said that we were on the point of communicating with the Departments of Agriculture and Interior on the subject.

Major Sullivan said that this information was of distinct interest in view of the fact that American Army officers were even now flying planes across Arabia. He said it was quite obvious that everything possible should be done to secure and

890F.61A/28 1/2


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MAY 13 1941

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and to retain the good-will of King Ibn Saud and the Saudi Arabian Government in order to protect our flyers, some of whom might, of course, be forced down in Arabia. Moreover, while there was no present prospect of building any installations in Saudi Arabia, no one could tell what requirements the future would bring.

  
NE:GPMerriam:EMA



# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

### SUBJECT

Presentation to King Abdel Aziz Ibn Saud of the US  
Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia:

Two letters addressed to the President by King Abdel  
Aziz Ibn Saud and copies of telegrams exchanged  
with King Ibn Saud, Emir Saud and Emir Faisal on  
the occasion of the Minister's return to Cairo,  
transmitted.

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See # 8  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated May 18, 1942 From Egypt, Kirk  
To

File No. 123 K 632/447

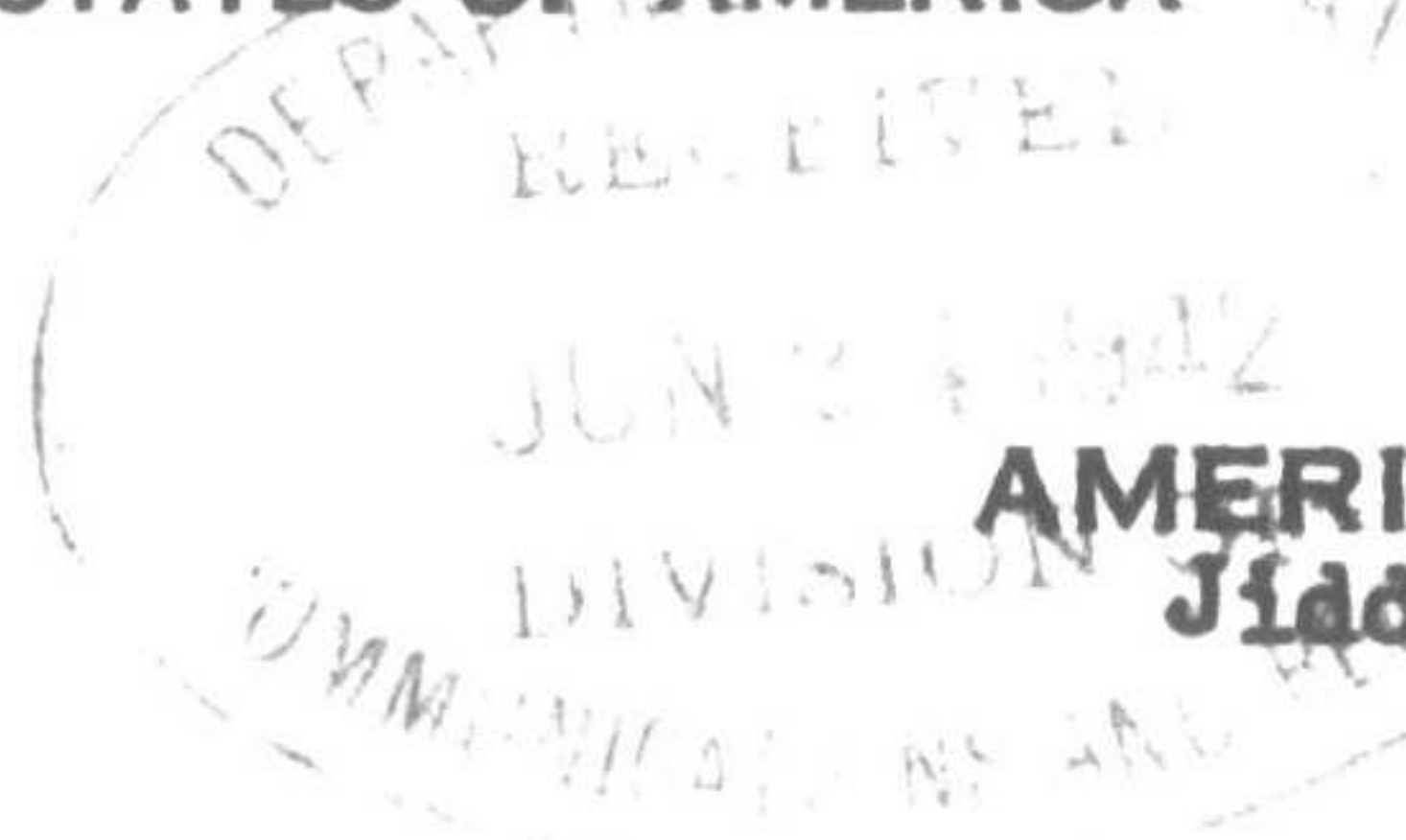
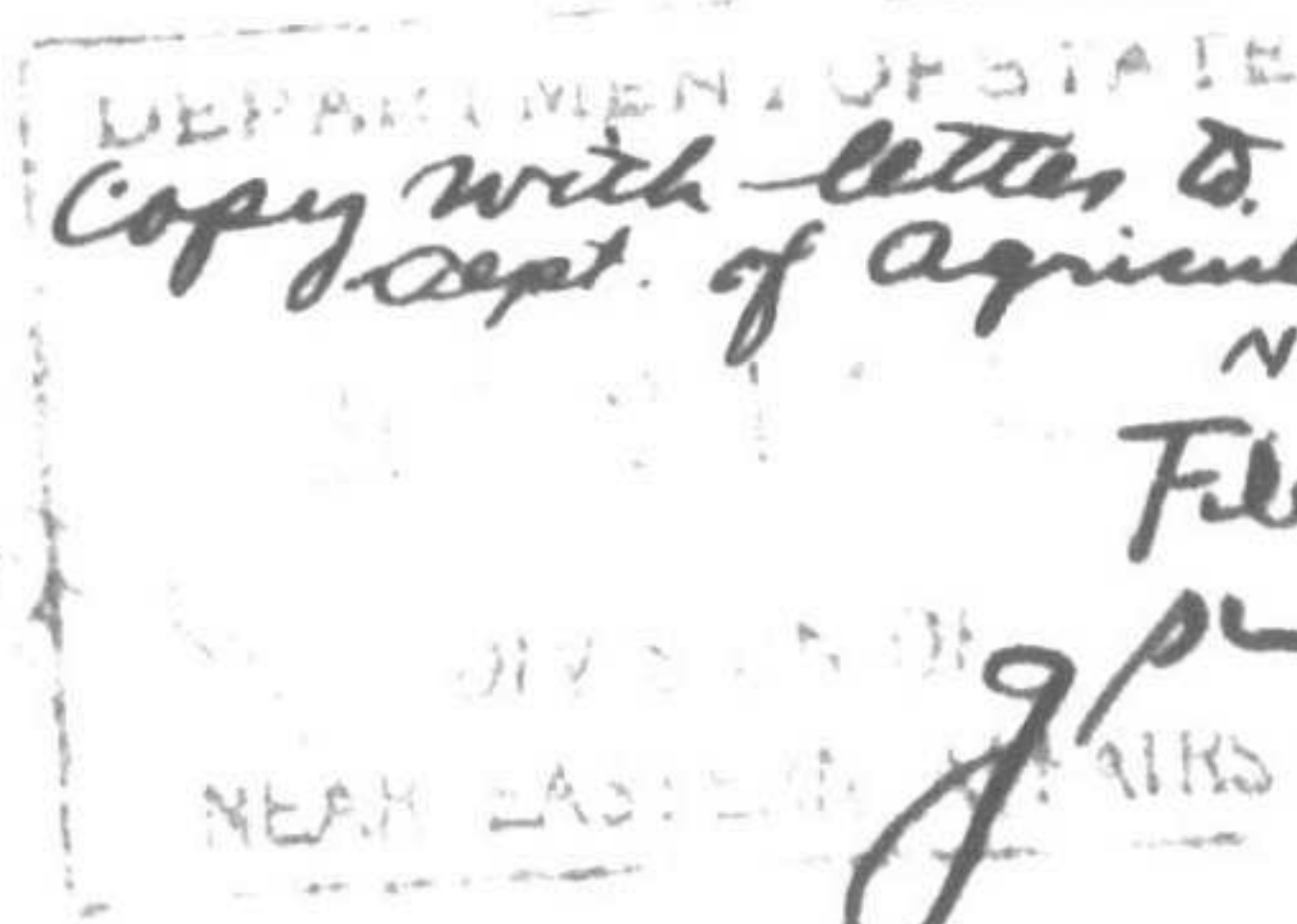
890F.61A/29

890F.61A





THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



AMERICAN LEGATION  
Jidda, May 25, 1942.

June 27, 1942

Dear Gordon:

While in Riyadh, Mr. J. G. Hamilton, a member of the Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, asked me to write you about tamarisk cuttings. He was too busy with other things at that moment to do it himself.

His suggestion was that the Department wire to the United States Date Experiment Station at Indio, California, for thirty Athol tamarisk cuttings, and that they be forwarded to the Legation in Cairo through the Operations Officer, Bolling Field, Anacostia.

On arrival in Cairo, the package should be unwrapped and the packing re-wet. If the cuttings remain in Cairo a week or more the re-wetting operation should be repeated.

The cuttings should be forwarded from Cairo to the Legation here at the earliest opportunity, and I should be informed by wire in advance when to expect them. Then I can get in touch with Mr. Hamilton and arrange for their final disposition.

The cuttings are intended for King Ibn Saud, and Mr. Hamilton thinks that they will be of great value in Saudi Arabia.

I will write you a further and less specialized letter in a day or two.

Sincerely,

*James G. Merriam*

Gordon P. Merriam, Esquire,  
Department of State,  
Washington.

Copies to Legation at Cairo and to Mr. Hamilton.

330F.61A/31

PS/FPJ



JUN 27, 1942 3

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/31

My dear Mr. Allee:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter dated May 25, 1942, from Mr. James S. Moose, Jr., American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at Jidda, addressed to Mr. Merriam of this Division, relating to the desire of Mr. J. G. Hamilton of the Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, to obtain tamarisk cuttings.

We should naturally appreciate your assistance in the matter and shall be glad to cooperate in any way that you may suggest, to the best of our ability.

Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

JUN 27 1942

From Jidda, dated  
May 25, 1942.

Mr. Ralph H. Allee,  
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations,  
Department of Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.

NE:GPM:EML 6-26-42

A true copy of  
the signed orig-  
inal.

890F.61A/31

PS/LIC



PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

Collect { Full rate  
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## TELEGRAM SENT

### Department of State

Washington.

JUL 21 1942

2pm

AMERICAN LEGATION

JIDDA (SAUDI ARABIA)

20

Reference letter from Moose to Merriam of May 25,  
Agriculture states that tamarisk cuttings will be  
sent in near future in accordance with Hamilton's  
directions.

Huel  
Rear

CR  
JUL 21 1942

890F.61A/31

NE:CPM:EML

CR  
JUL 27 1942

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

1942 JUL 21 PM 12 24

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

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RECEIVED U.S. AGRICULTURAL MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1942 JUL 2 PM 4 14

Report No. 1

June 1, 1942

The Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of general instructions dated March 19, 1942 received at Cairo, Egypt, May 1, 1942.

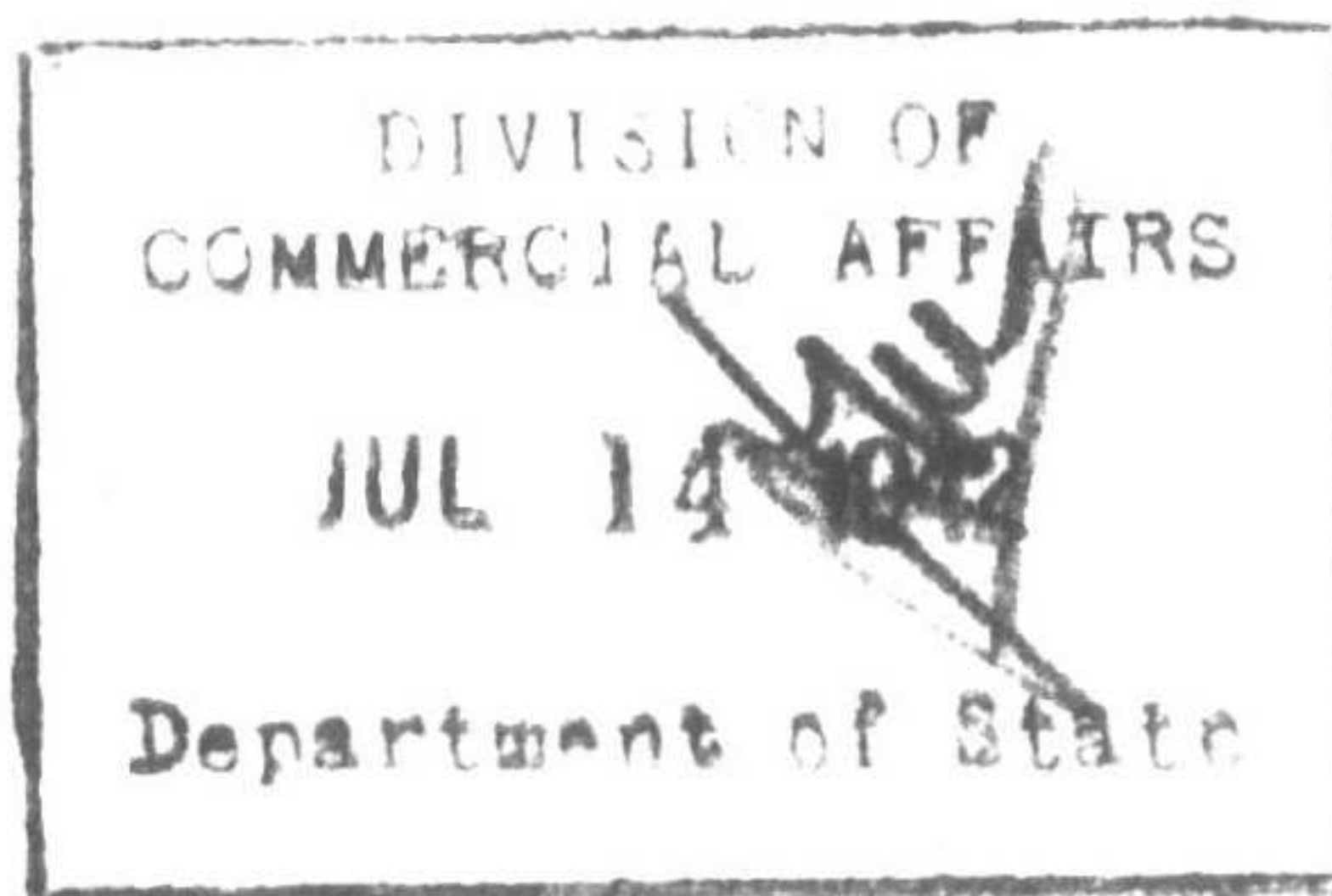
I herewith submit a report of the Mission to date. Messrs. A.L. Wathen and J. G. Hamilton have written simple memoranda reports for the benefit of the Saudi Arab Government in its development of its Al Kharj project. The essentials of these and future memoranda reports will be included in the final complete report of the Mission, unless you instruct otherwise. It is intended to have several copies of the above report printed in Cairo in both Arabic and English and distributed as the Saudi Arab Government may indicate. It is hoped that the recommendations and data contained therein will serve as a guide for much future agricultural development.

Trip from Washington, D. C. to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

On March 19th at 9:20 A.M. this Mission left Bowling Field, Washington D. C. (by T.W.A. Stratoliner "Navajo". The passenger list was comprised of Admiral Standley in a party of five going to Moscow and General Russell in a party of two going to India. Landings were made at Palm Beach, Fla.; Waller Field (near Port of Spain), Trinidad, Belem (near Para), Brazil; Natal, Brazil; Roberts Field, Munrovia; Accra, Gold Coast; Kano, Nigeria; Wadi Saidna Airport near Khartoum, Sudan; and Heliopolis Airport, Cairo, Egypt at 2:47 P.M., March 26, 1942. Total distance 10,969 miles and total time in the air, as reported by one of the officers of the plane, was 67 hours 20 minutes, or an average speed of 163 miles per hour. The navigation was perfect, and the crew was most competent and courteous in every respect.

At Heliopolis, Mr. Jacobs, from the American Legation, Cairo, welcomed us. He had arranged comfortable accommodations for us at Shephards Hotel, Cairo.

On Friday, March 27, the Mission met Alexander Kirk, Esq., Minister to Egypt and Saudi Arabia at the American Legation, Cairo. We had a most cordial and delightful interview.



890F.61A/33

FOIA

PS/GH

JUL 15 1942



At 11:00 A.M., March 28th, I called on General Maxwell as arranged by Mr. Kirk. At General Maxwell's office I met Colonel Duke and Colonel Oliver. With them I went over my maps of Arabia and discussed various details as to landing fields and conditions regarding water, transport facilities, and political districts. A cable was then drafted and sent to Washington.

On April 1, Mr. Lewis Jones, American Commercial Attache, arranged for us to meet Mr. Kahn, Chief of Middle East Supply Center. He called in Major Fleming, Captain Hodder, and Mr. Trouncer. All were much interested in our Mission and eager to assist in our obtaining information on Egypt which might be useful for Saudi Arabia. All are most anxious that the Domestic production of foodstuffs in Saudi Arabia be increased so that shipping tonnage may be saved for other purposes.

On April 2nd we visited the Egyptian Government cotton research plant and wheat experimental gardens. Mr. Jas. Philp promised to make up a batch of various seeds which Mr. Hamilton thought might be beneficial to Saudi Arabia. These seeds are now with us with the exception of those which we have planted at Al Kharj.

On April 5th Fuad Abaza Pasha, Director General of the Royal Agricultural Society of Egypt, called for us to visit the large Arab horse farm, experimental gardens, and commercial crops fields. This society is doing wonderfully effective work in maintaining the pure blooded Arab horse, also in distributing improved seeds for crops and the establishment of improved houses. The work is being done entirely by Egyptian personnel and an entirely Egyptian society. Fuad Pasha is ready to assist the Mission in any way possible and gave me a personal letter to His Majesty, King Ibn Saud. This I delivered to the Finance Minister for transmittal to the King May 16th. On May 21st I received a note from King Ibn Saud thanking me for the letter and stating he was writing Fuad Pasha direct.

The friendly cooperation of Egyptians, especially of large societies such as the above, is, I think, greatly to be desired. (~~For many years there has been friction between Egypt and Saudi Arabia.~~)

Through Mr. Jones we met H. Enan Bey, Undersecretary of Agriculture. He was intensely interested in the work of the Mission and showed us his newly developed 103 acre farm home on the northwestern outskirts of Cairo.

On April 14th, Colonel G. de Gaury, probably British Intelligence Service, lunched with me, also his assistant, Capt. Pat Uniacke. They had just returned from a trip to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with H.B.M. H. S. Bird. De Gaury is a very able Arabic student and traveller. Cyril Ousman, British Vice-Consul at Jeddah, was also on the above trip to Riyadh and came to Cairo. I introduced him to Mr. Kirk.

As Mr. Kirk was requested to await certain news from Washington, it was decided that Mr. James C. Moose, Jr., Charge d' Affaires, American Legation, Jeddah, Mr. Wathen, and Mr. Hamilton should proceed by ship to



Jeddah to await word as to when to meet Mr. Kirk and myself at Riyadh. Mr. Kirk planned to travel there by air. On April 15th, the Mission called on Sheikh Fouzan, the Saudi Arab Government's representative in Cairo. We had called on him the day after we arrived from Washington, and, as usual, Sheikh Fouzan was most cordial and issued instructions that Saudi Arabian visas be given us gratis immediately. On April 17th the party left Cairo for Suez and Jeddah.

On April 21st I visited units and works of the Inland Water Transport) of the British Army. (Excellent work is being done to use the Nile and canals to relieve shipping conditions between Port Sudan, Kosier, Suez, Port Said, and Alexandria. Construction and repair work could be very greatly expedited by the use of American pneumatic and electric drills, saws, riveters, hammers, etc.)

On May 9th, the party of Minister Kirk left for Saudi Arabia. (in a Douglass DC-3 paratroop carrying plane. We left at 6:17 A.M. and landed at Habaniya, Iraq at 11:03, where we remained for 47 minutes, and then took off for Bahrein where we landed at 3:32 P.M. The Bahrein Petroleum Company were most hospitable in entertaining and housing the entire party of ten. The next day we left Bahrein at 1:58 P.M. and landed at King Ibn Saud's camp near Bir Rumah at 3:40 P.M. where we were greeted by the Finance Minister, Sheikh Abdulla Suleiman al Hamdan. At 6:00 P.M. His Majesty received and welcomed us in front of his great tent.)

At 5:00 P.M. on May 11th Minister Kirk formally presented to His Majesty, King Ibn Saud, the U. S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia. The King expressed great appreciation and said he felt sure the work and advice of the Mission would be of immense benefit to his country.

At 7:30 P.M. the Finance Minister sent a car for me, and in his tent I outlined general plans and itinerary. He was most interested and agreed, except that he thought more time would be required on the Al Hasa district.

The following is the itinerary tentatively decided upon, although it is to be understood that the times to be spent at various places may vary greatly from this estimate:

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| May 28  | Leave Al Kharj   |
| " 28    | Riyadh   |
| " 29    | Dhahran (California Arabian Standard Oil Company camp) |
| June 3  | Bahrein  |
| " 7     | Dhahran  |
| " 8     | Qatif  |
| " 9     | Dammam coast   |
| " 10-17 | Hofuf, including Jabrin                                |
| " 18-21 | To Riyadh, via Enjabea                                 |
| " 22-30 | Al Kharj   |



|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| July 2-8     | Lai'la - Wadi Dawasir         |
| " 9          | Garia in Rub' Al Khali        |
| " 11-18      | Nejran                        |
| " 19-23      | Nejran to Abha Asir           |
| " 23-31      | Abha                          |
| August 1-6   | Abha, Mesghie, Tihama         |
| " 7-9        | Jizan                         |
| " 10-14      | Jizan, Aqubat Dthila, Abha    |
| " 15-25      | Abha to Taif                  |
| " 26-27      | Taif to Mahad Dahab           |
| " 28-31      | Jeddah, including Wadi Fatima |
| Sept. 1-4    | Jeddah, including Wadi Fatima |
| " 5          | Rabiqh                        |
| " 6          | Mastura                       |
| " 7          | Yenbo                         |
| " 8-9        | Yenbo Nakhil                  |
| " 10-15      | Ain Eines and Wadi Jizal      |
| " 16-20      | Al Ula and Medaine Saleh      |
| " 20-30      | Anaiza and vicinity           |
| October 1-13 | Hail and vicinity to Duwadami |
| " 14-20      | Al Kharj and Riyadh           |
| " 21-25      | To Jeddah                     |
| " 26         | Leave Jeddah for Cairo        |

On the morning of May 12th all the Kirk party went by car 83 miles to Riyadh and took up quarters in Bediah, the usual guest house which is a part of the palace of Crown Prince Saud.

The various audiences, lunches, and dinners with His Majesty, King Ibn Saud, Amir Saud, and Amir Feisal are undoubtedly most adequately detailed in reports you have already received from the office of Minister Kirk.

On May 14th, at the invitation of the Minister of Finance, Sheikh Abdulla Suleiman Al Hamdan, we left Bediah Palace and Riyadh for Al Kharj. Sheikh Abdulla met us at the city walls and accompanied us. Minister Kirk, with his party, had left the previous evening for the air field at Bir Rumah

In addition to the U. S. Agricultural Mission there was a British party consisting of Major Le Blanc from G.H.Q., Cairo, Cyril Ousman, Vice-Consul at Jeddah, and Mr. Walker, also from the British Legation at Jeddah. Major Le Blanc had been sent to study the transportation problems and requirements of King Ibn Saud and conditions in Saudi Arabia. He hopes to arrange considerable assistance in various types of equipment, as well as defenses of Bahrein and perhaps the oil field at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. The defense of the latter is still problematical as this country is still officially neutral.



## Al Kharj

A house had been especially fitted up for the Mission at Al Kharj where we arrived at 6:40 P.M., May 14, 1942.

As previously mentioned, A. L. Wathen and J. G. Hamilton have written a detailed memorandum report for guidance of some of the operations at Al Kharj. This report is being translated into Arabic and will be sent at once to Sheikh Abdulla Suleiman at Al Kharj as the work recommended should be commenced immediately.

The Al Kharj project is a reclamation plan initiated entirely by the Finance Minister about three and one-half years ago lying 58 miles to the south of Riyadh. The California Arabian Standard Oil Company has been of vital assistance in having geological, topographical, and general surveys and reports made by its geologists and other staff members. It has also furnished much pumping and tractor equipment. The Saudi Arabian Mining Syndicate, Ltd., has ordered and purchased on behalf of the Saudi Arabian Government various agricultural equipment, including tractors.

The area under irrigation and cultivation at present is 2,500 acres, but there is an ultimate possibility of ten times this area if the great pits at Al Kharj can provide sufficient water.

The main crops are dates, wheat, and alfalfa, but sufficient green vegetables are being grown to assist materially the diet at the palaces in Riyadh. About 1500 men are employed on the Al Kharj project at present and more are soon expected for work on the 15 mile irrigation canal.

Saudi Arabia has imported the bulk of its foodstuffs in the past few centuries, but there are evidences of ancient gardens and cultivation in many places.

The two great sources of water at Al Kharj have not been used as far as can be seen as pumps for the lifts of 15 to 25 feet were not available. The amount of water is still unknown. The pits are approximately 300 feet in diameter and 420 feet deep. There is also a considerable amount of shallow well and spring water, and accordingly, it is believed the ultimate aim of 25,000 acres is not unreasonable. At the present time, when shipping space is so vital to the war effort, all the foods which can be grown in Saudi Arabia will release shipping space for war material by that amount of tonnage.

From May 14 to 27th the Al Kharj area was examined by the Mission. Also, the 1800 acre project at Khafs Daghara, 28 miles south of Al Kharj, was visited. This latter area is better wheat land, and a crop is now ready for threshing. The Finance Minister initiated this project also, and in the eight months since commencing work he has made a marvellous showing.

Mr. E. L. Wathen has been studying the irrigation and drainage problems while Mr. J. G. Hamilton has been investigating the crops. At Al Kharj the drainage is immediately essential as a small part of the area is



already water-logged and much alkali is appearing which will soon ruin the crops unless drainage is instituted. Fortunately, it has been proven by the tests we have conducted that much of this area can be drained, and plans have been outlined to the Finance Minister. It is gratifying that the Mission has already been able to be of actual practical benefit to this country.

Details of crops, crop rotation, planting calendar, use of water, and removal of weeds are being given to the Finance Minister for use at Al Kharj.

#### Al Kharj-Riyadh-Dhahran

On May 27th we left Al Kharj by car. At the outskirts of Riyadh a car from His Majesty awaited us and accompanied us to the Maruba Palace as we were told the King would see us immediately. We had a very cordial interview of 20 minutes in which the King again expressed his gratitude to President Roosevelt and the American Government for the Mission. (Prince Feisal was also present, but as usual, in the presence of his father he did not participate in the conversation.)

The King invited us to lunch at Bediah Palace, and we did so in company with a Mr. Higginbottom, Political Resident of Kuwait, who had just completed a two day visit to His Majesty. He said that Minister Bird of Jeddah had suggested that he call on the King and see Riyadh as a matter of general interest. He said he had no message nor mission of any kind to accomplish.)

We proceeded to Dhahran, Al Hasa, arriving ~~at the headquarters of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company~~ on May 29th. ~~The distance by our speedometer was 635 kilometers or 394 miles from Bediah Palace, Riyadh.~~

#### Dhahran, Al Hasa, Saudi Arabia

Mr. Charles E. Davis, Acting General Manager of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company, and his staff gave us a most cordial welcome. A wonderfully comfortable air conditioned house was assigned for our use.

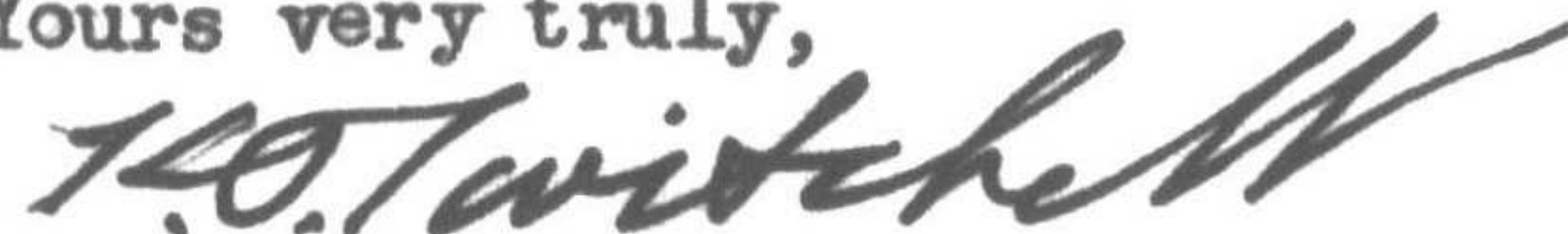
From May 28th to 31st we studied maps and data which were most valuable and informative in all respects. The areas of Al Hasa and Nejd have been examined, mapped, and reported upon by the oil company geologists. Mr. Davis submitted all reports concerning water and possible cultivable areas, and two of the geologists who had made many of the reports gave us many additional details and opinions. As a result of the latter it is likely we shall visit the oasis of Jabrin, 350 kilometers south of Hofuf. King Ibn Saud planted an Ikhwan settlement there, but it failed because of malaria. It is possible we may be able to investigate sufficiently to form a plan for drainage and destruction of the mosquitoes.



-7-

I shall send reports covering as nearly as possible the monthly periods, as you requested.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. S. Twitchell", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

K. S. TWITCHELL, Chief,  
U.S. Agricultural Mission  
to Saudi Arabia.



From;

K.S.Twitchell,  
c/o U.S.Legation,  
Jedda, Hedjaz,  
Saudi Arabia.

Via Air Mail  
*a Dip' Pouch*

The Secretary of State,  
State Department,  
Washington,

D.C.,  
U.S.A.



In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/33

13, 1942

My dear Mr. Collier:

As of interest, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the main substance of a report dated June 1, 1942, which has been received from Mr. K. S. Twitchell, Chief, United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, of which Mr. A. L. Wathen of the Department of the Interior and Mr. J. G. Hamilton of the Department of Agriculture are members.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

Report from  
K. S. Twitchell,  
June 1, 1942.

Mr. John Collier,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Department of the Interior.

NE:GPM:DF

7/11/42

*For Collier*  
*Att*

*DC A*  
*RUE*

A true copy  
of the original  
is retained.

890F.61A/33

PS/WFZ



In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/33

My dear Mr. Allee:

As of interest, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the main substance of a report dated June 1, 1942, which has been received from Mr. K. S. Twitchell, Chief, United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia, of which Mr. A. L. Wathen of the Department of the Interior and Mr. J. G. Hamilton of the Department of Agriculture are members.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

From Mr. K. S. Twitchell,  
Report dated June 1, 1942.

Mr. Ralph H. Allee,

Chief of Office of

Foreign Agricultural Relations,  
Department of Agriculture.

NE:GPM:DF

7/11/42

PCA  
RDS

890F.61A/33

PS/VFZ

A true copy of  
the original  
sent

JUL 11 1942  
JUL 13 1942



U. S. AGRICULTURAL MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Report No. 1

June 1, 1942

The Secretary of State  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of general instructions dated March 19, 1942 received at Cairo, Egypt, May 1, 1942.

I herewith submit a report of the Mission to date. Messrs. A.L. Wathen and J. G. Hamilton have written simple memorandum reports for the benefit of the Saudi Arab Government in its development of its Al Kharj project. The essentials of these and future memoranda reports will be included in the final complete report of the Mission, unless you instruct otherwise. It is intended to have several copies of the above report printed in Cairo in both Arabic and English and distributed as the Saudi Arab Government may indicate. It is hoped that the recommendations and data contained therein will serve as a guide for much future agricultural development.

Trip from Washington, D.C. to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

At Heliopolis, Mr. Jacobs, from the American Legation, Cairo, welcomed us. He had arranged comfortable accommodations for us at Shephards Hotel, Cairo.

On Friday, March 27, the Mission met Alexander Kirk, Esq., Minister to Egypt and Saudi Arabia at the American Legation, Cairo. We had a most cordial and delightful interview.

At 11:00 A.M., March 28th, I called on General Maxwell as arranged by Mr. Kirk. At General Maxwell's office I met Colonel Duke and Colonel Oliver. With them I went over my maps of Arabia and discussed various details as to landing fields and conditions regarding water, transport facilities, and political districts. A cable was then drafted and sent to Washington.

On

FW

890F.614/33



On April 1, Mr. Lewis Jones, American Commercial Attache, arranged for us to meet Mr. Kahn, Chief of Middle East Supply Center. He called in Major Fleming, Captain Hodder, and Mr. Trouncer. All were much interested in our Mission and eager to assist in our obtaining information on Egypt which might be useful for Saudi Arabia. All are most anxious that the Domestic production of foodstuffs in Saudi Arabia be increased so that shipping tonnage may be saved for other purposes.

On April 2nd we visited the Egyptian Government cotton research plant and wheat experimental gardens. Mr. Jas. Philp promised to make up a batch of various seeds which Mr. Hamilton thought might be beneficial to Saudi Arabia. These seeds are now with us with the exception of those which we have planted at Al Kharj.

On April 5th Fuad Abaza Pasha, Director General of the Royal Agricultural Society of Egypt, called for us to visit the large Arab horse farm, experimental gardens, and commercial crops fields. This society is doing wonderfully effective work in maintaining the pure blooded Arab horse, also in distributing improved seeds for crops and the establishment of improved houses. The work is being done entirely by Egyptian personnel and an entirely Egyptian society. Fuad Pasha is ready to assist the Mission in any way possible and gave me a personal letter to His Majesty, King Ibn Saud. This I delivered to the Finance Minister for transmittal to the King May 16th. On May 21st I received a note from King Ibn Saud thanking me for the letter and stating he was writing Fuad Pasha direct.

The friendly cooperation of Egyptians, especially of large societies such as the above, is, I think, greatly to be desired.

Through Mr. Jones we met H. Enan Bey, Undersecretary of Agriculture. He was intensely interested in the work of the Mission and showed us his newly developed 103 acre farm home on the northwestern outskirts of Cairo.

On April 14th, Colonel G. de Gaury, ~~probably British Intelligence Service~~, lunched with me, also his assistant, Capt. Pat Uniacke. They had just returned from a trip to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with HBM. H. S. Bird. De Gaury is a very able Arabic student and traveller. Cyril Ousman, British Vice-Consul at Jeddah, was also on the above trip

to



to Riyadh and came to Cairo. I introduced him to Mr. Kirk.

As Mr. Kirk was requested to await certain news from Washington, it was decided that Mr. James C. Moose, Jr., Charge d'Affaires, American Legation, Jeddah, Mr. Wathen, and Mr. Hamilton should proceed by ship to Jeddah to await word as to when to meet Mr. Kirk and myself at Riyadh. Mr. Kirk planned to travel there by air. On April 15th, the Mission called on Sheikh Fouzan, the Saudi Arab Government's representative in Cairo. We had called on him the day after we arrived from Washington, and, as usual, Sheikh Fouzan was most cordial and issued instructions that Saudi Arabian visas be given us gratis immediately. On April 17th the party left Cairo for Suez and Jeddah.

At 5:00 P.M. on May 11th Minister Kirk formally presented to His Majesty, King Ibn Saud, the U.S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia. The King expressed great appreciation and said he felt sure the work and advice of the Mission would be of immense benefit to his country.

At 7:30 P.M. the Finance Minister sent a car for me, and in his tent I outlined general plans and itinerary. He was most interested and agreed, except that he thought more time would be required on the Al Hasa district.

The following is the itinerary tentatively decided upon, although it is to be understood that the times to be spent at various places may vary greatly from this estimate:

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|----------|--|
| May 28   | Leave Al Kharj   |
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| " 10-17  | Hofuf, including Jabrin                                |
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| July 2-8 | Lai'la - Wadi Dawasir                                  |
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| " 19-23  | Nejran to Abha Asir                                    |
| " 23-31  | Abha   |

August



|         |       |                               |
|---------|-------|-------------------------------|
| August  | 1 - 6 | Abha, Mesghie, Tihama         |
| "       | 7 - 9 | Jizan                         |
| "       | 10-14 | Jizan, Aqubat Dthila, Abha    |
| "       | 15-25 | Abha to Taif                  |
| "       | 26-27 | Taif to Mahad Dahab           |
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Al Kharj-Riyadh-Dhahran

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Dhahran, Al Hasa, Saudi Arabia

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I shall send reports covering as nearly as possible the monthly periods, as you requested.

Yours very truly,

K. S. TWITCHELL, Chief,  
U. S. Agricultural Mission  
to Saudi Arabia.

FW 890 F. 61A / 33



# CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

### SUBJECT

A. L. Wathen and J. G. Hamilton, members of the Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia:

Arrive in Jidda on afternoon of April 22 on board the SS TAIF and were installed in the staff quarters of the Saudi Arabian Mining Syndicate.

For the original paper from which reference is taken

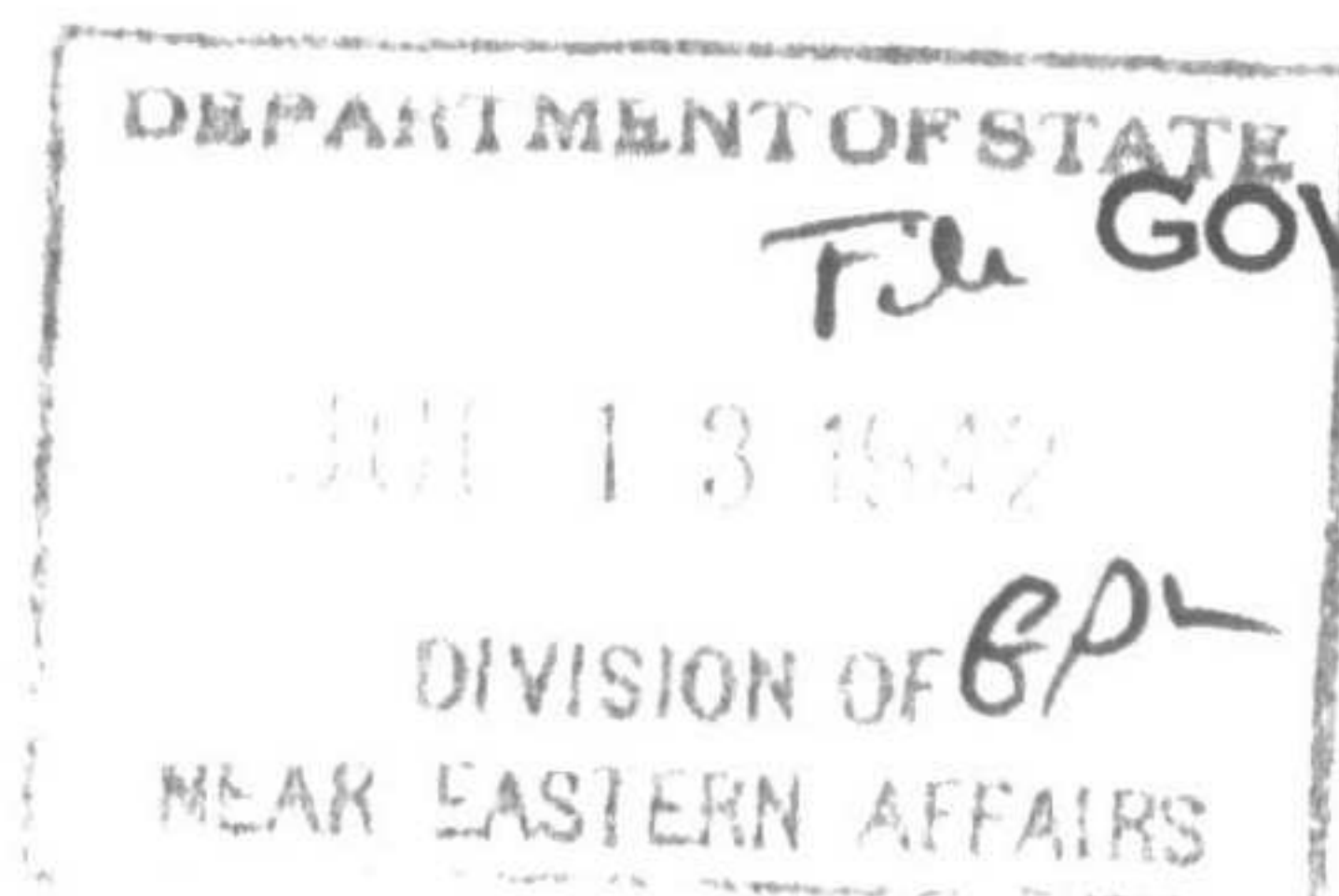
See 1  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated May 1, 1942 From Saudi Arabia, Moose

File No. 123 Moose, James S./376

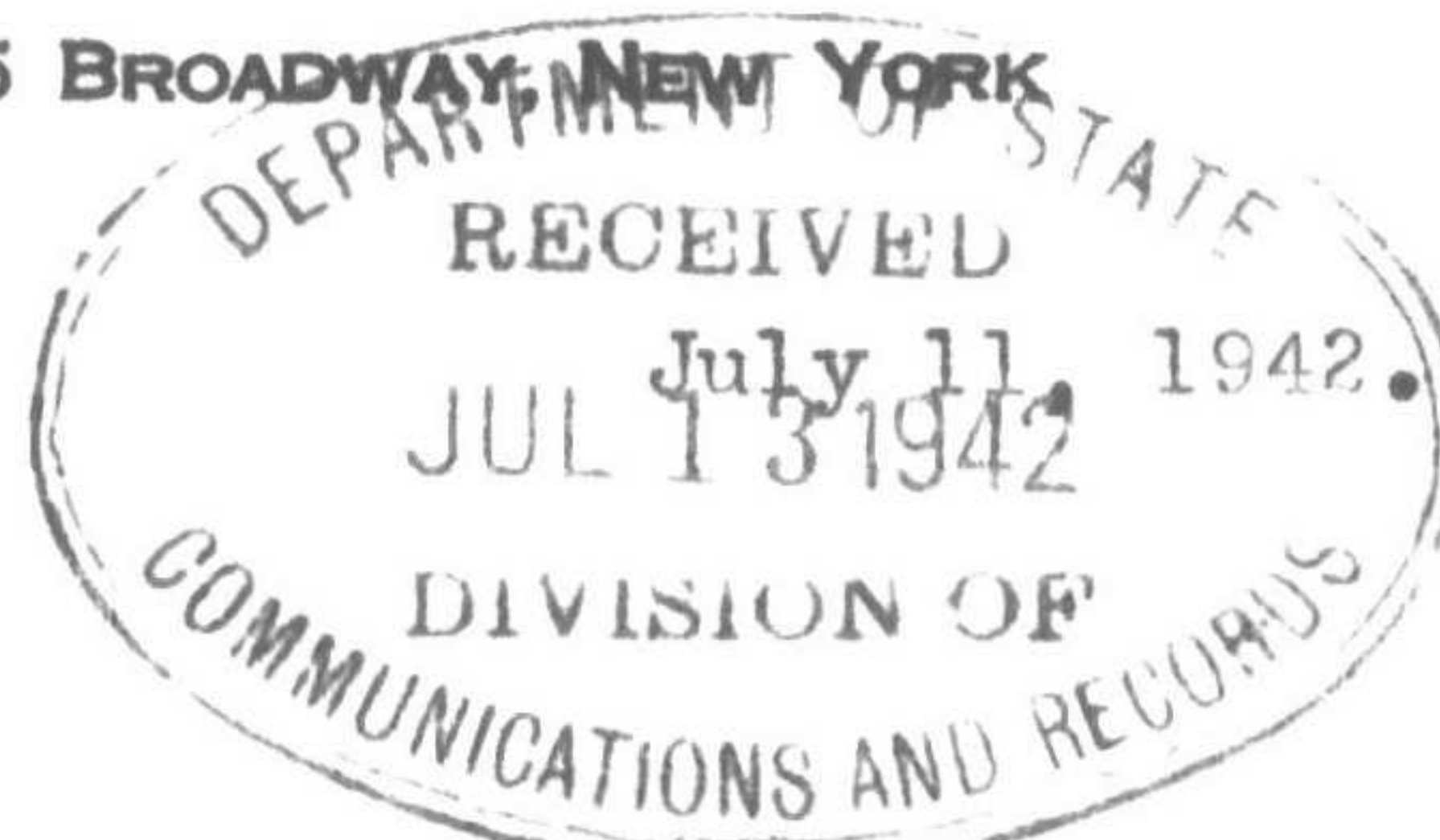


CABLE ADDRESS:  
USDA, NEW YORK



UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT DESPATCH AGENCY

45 BROADWAY, NEW YORK



890F.61A/36

Dear Mr. Alling:

There was duly received your June 30, NE 890F.61A/19, relative to a shipment of seed approximating 50 tons originating in California and Arizona for shipment to the Saudi Arab Government.

The present rail rate from California or Arizona, less carload is \$5.05 per 100 pounds; carload, subject to a minimum of 60,000 pounds, 99¢ per 100 pounds. These rates cover grains. If there is to be a large assortment of garden seeds, corn, bean, tomatoes, etc., they will be higher.

890f.61a The present ocean rate to Ras Tanura, Jidda, or Port Sudan, when vessels are calling at these ports, is \$27.00 per 2,240 pounds—plus present war surcharge of 47%.

Insurance rates quoted today are \$1.37½ per ~~100~~ <sup>\$100</sup> pounds declared covering all risks—excluding war, plus \$22.50 for war, making a total of \$23.87½ per \$100.00 declared. The Department may wish to contact the Insurance Section, War Shipping Administration, Washington, relative to having that unit cover war risk as the rate should be considerably less than \$22.50.

We do not anticipate any handling charge in New York Harbor unless we are confronted with demurrage while awaiting vessel being placed on berth.

It may be that the Department could obtain permission from the War Department through the North Atlantic Division, U. S. Engineers, to accept the seed for transportation to Messawa on an Army Transport supply ship without charge, as a courtesy to the Saudi Arab Government.

Sincerely yours,

  
Howard Fyfe,  
U. S. Despatch Agent.

Mr. Paul H. Alling,  
Chief, Division of Near  
Eastern Affairs,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D. C.



7/11/42

Mr. Paul H. Alling - NE

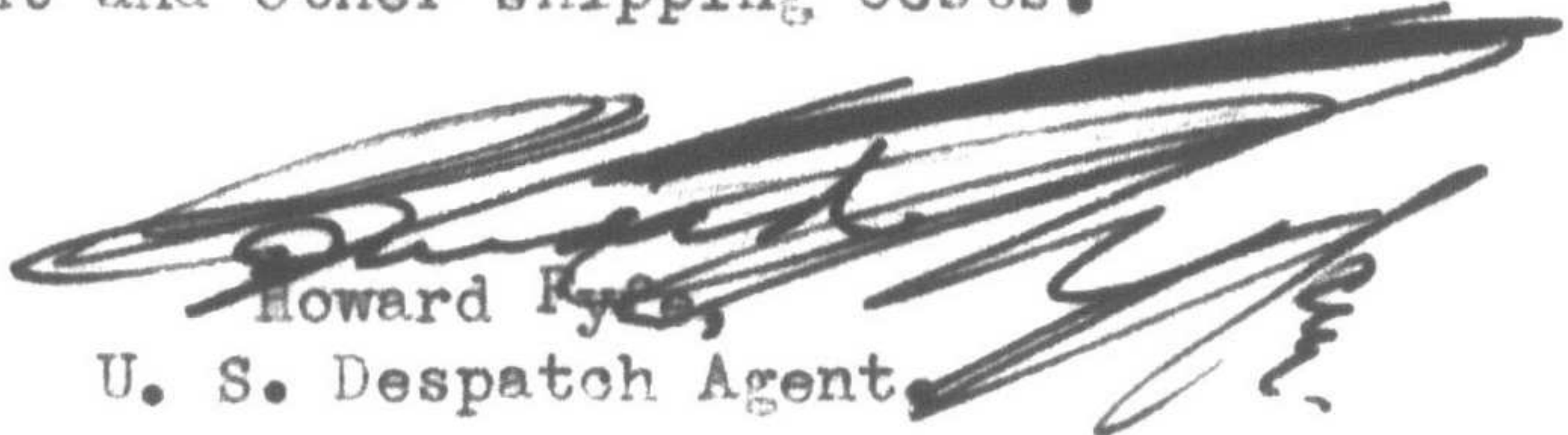
Page 2

P. S.

If the Department perceives no objection, the seed should be addressed "AMERICAN LEGATION, JIDDA, SAUDI ARABIA."

When the seed is packed ready for shipment at place of origin the suppliers should notify this Agency, at which time we will designate when to start enroute to avoid demurrage charges at port of embarkation.

If financial arrangements are to be made through the Guaranty Trust Company, New York, they should be instructed to honor request of this Agency for ocean freight and other shipping costs.

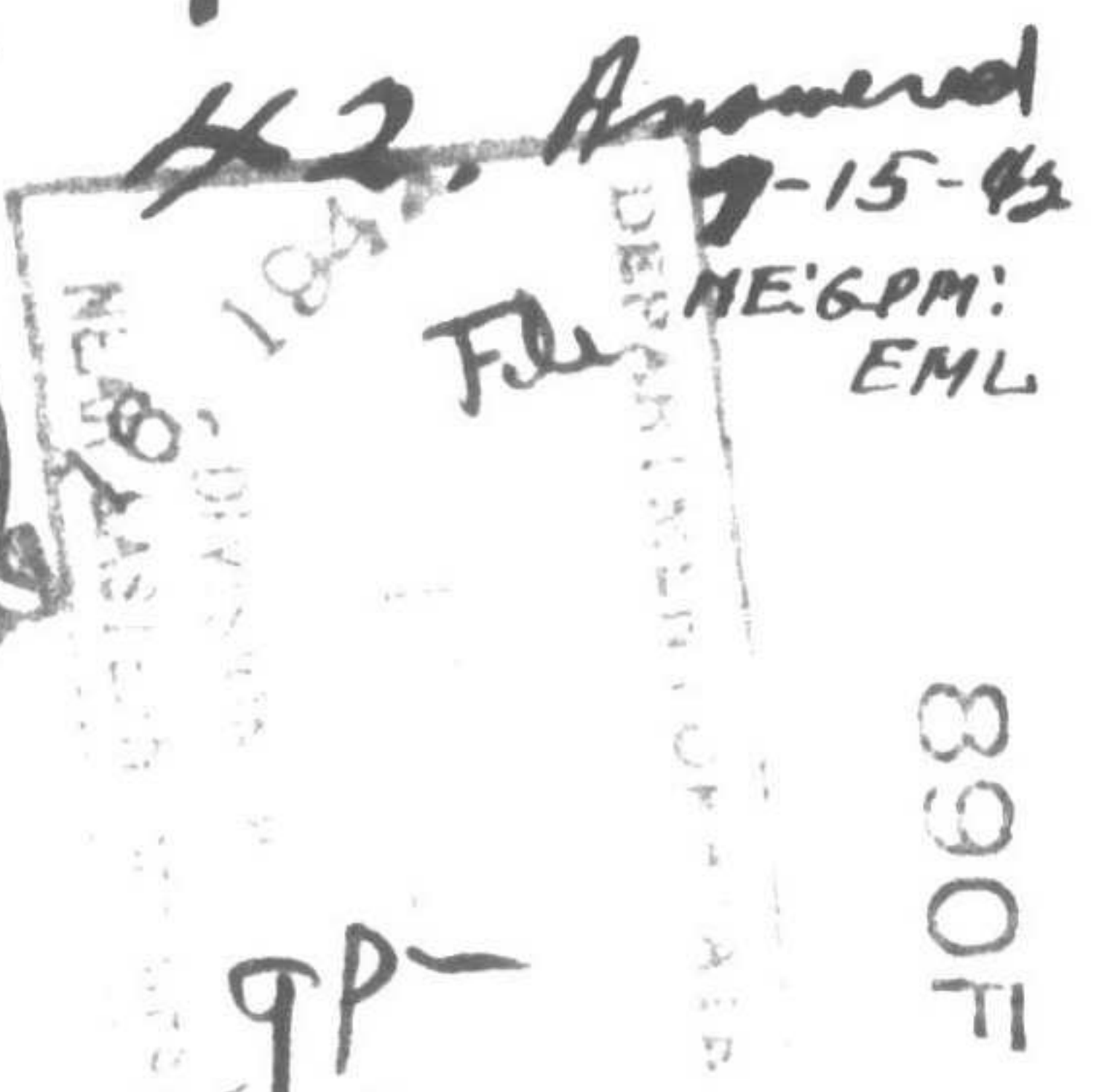


Howard Ryle,  
U. S. Despatch Agent.



273, D. Prospect St.,

Burlington, VT.



Dear Mr. Merriam

I enclose one

'Literature' which arrived recently  
from the Board of Economics.

If you think it is necessary  
for this information to be sent  
on to my husband would you  
be so kind as to arrange with  
the Board to have it sent  
to him direct.

Thanking you in  
anticipation for your kindness

Sincerely yours,

Corah S. Twitchell

enc

PS/LIC

890f.61A

890f.61A

JUL 17 1942  
FBI-IND



July 18, 1942

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/37

My dear Mrs. Twitchell:

I am returning the material forwarded with your letter of July 9, 1942, as I do not believe that your husband could possibly make use of it in Saudi Arabia. I presume that material of this sort was of interest to him prior to his departure when he was engaged in securing priorities for the release and shipment of various supplies to the Mining Syndicate.

Sincerely yours,

*GPM*  
Gordon P. Merriam

*Encl:*

Mrs. K. S. Twitchell,  
273 South Prospect Street,  
Burlington, Vermont.

*Recd*  
NE:GPM:EM 7-15-42

A true copy of  
the signed orig-  
inal.

890F.61A/37

PS/VFZ



In reply refer to  
NE 890P.61A/38

F:W.

My dear Mr. Allee:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a telegram dated July 15, 1942, which has been received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Jidda, regarding the work and personnel of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

According to an itinerary recently received, the Mission plans to leave Saudi Arabia for the return journey to the United States toward the end of October.

Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

Mr. Ralph H. Allee,  
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations,  
Department of Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.

gpm  
NE:GPM:BLS 7/21/42

JUL 22 1942

890P.61A/38

FP



July 22, 1942

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/38

My dear Mrs. Twitchell:

There is enclosed herewith a paraphrase of a telegram dated July 15, 1942, which has been received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Jidda, regarding the work and personnel of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

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Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

Paraphrase as  
stated.

Mrs. K. S. Twitchell,  
273 South Prospect Street,  
Burlington, Vermont.

*gpm*  
NE:GPM:BLS 7/21/42

JUL 22 1942

F.W. 890F.61A/38

FP



July 22, 1942

F.W. 890F.61A/38

FP

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/38

My dear Mrs. Wathen:

There is enclosed herewith a paraphrase of a telegram dated July 15, 1942, which has been received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Jidda, regarding the work and personnel of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

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Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

Paraphrase as  
stated.

Mrs. A. L. Wathen,  
2201 Military Road,  
North Arlington, Virginia.

*gpm*  
NE:GPM:BLS 7/21/42

JUL 22 1942



July 22, 1942

In reply refer to  
NE 890F.61A/38

Mrs.  
My dear Hamilton:

There is enclosed herewith a paraphrase of a telegram dated July 15, 1942, which has been received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Jidda, regarding the work and personnel of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

According to an itinerary recently received, the Mission plans to leave Saudi Arabia for the return journey to the United States toward the end of October.

Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

Paraphrase as  
stated.

Mrs. J. G. Hamilton,  
c/o Mrs. W. N. Harshman,  
1385 West 39th Street,  
Los Angeles, California.

NE:GPM:BLS 7/21/42

JUL 22 1942

F.W.

890F.61A/38

FFP



July 22, 1942

In reply refer to  
NE 890P.61A/38

390F.61A/38

PS/LMC

My dear Mr. McCaskill:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a telegram dated July 15, 1942, which has been received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Jidda, regarding the work and personnel of the United States Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia.

According to an itinerary recently received, the Mission plans to leave Saudi Arabia for the return journey to the United States toward the end of October.

Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

Mr. J. C. McCaskill,  
Department of the Interior,  
Washington, D. C.

gpr  
NE:GPM:BLS 7/21/42

JUL 22 1942



# TELEGRAM RECEIVED

BH

Jidda

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (BR)

Dated July 15, 1942  
FROM

Rec'd 7:50 a.m., 16th

Secretary of State,

Washington.

July 22, 1942

31, July 15, 5 p.m.

The following message is transmitted for Twitchell now at Dhahran.

89 of 61a  
"Returned to Dhahran from Hofuf Jobrin trip July 12. Recommendations being made to Saudi-Arabian Government which would increase date production and decrease malaria in Jobrin oasis also that would increase productivity in Hufuf oasis and improvement of present 27,000 acres by more efficient drainage and on areas approximating 5,000 acres each by use and re-use of drainage water with ultimate use of artesian wells if possible. Saudi-Arab Government already benefiting same areas by using drainage methods advised by mission. Reception everywhere very cordial and cooperative. Hamilton and Wathen now entirely recovered perfect health. Hoping proceed Riya Ohalkharj and Aflaj leaving Dhahran about July 19".

MOOSE

WSB

#5  
Transferred to  
Mr. Lintzell  
Mr. Wathen  
Mr. Aslee  
Mr. Hamilton  
Mr. Gaskill  
Mr. Felt  
JUL 24 1942  
DIVISION OF  
ASIAN AFFAIRS  
GPO - GPM-348

890F.61A/38

PS/MLN



PARAPHRASE  
of Telegram from Jidda, July 15, 1942  
no. 31

Secretary of State,

Washington.

The Legation transmits the following message for Twitchell who is now at Dhahran:

On July 12 we returned to Dhahran from the trip to Hofuf and Jobrin. The Saudi Arabian Government will soon receive recommendations from us looking to decreasing malaria and increasing date production in the Jobrin oasis, also to increasing the productiveness of the Hofuf oasis and improving the present acreage of 27,000 acres by better drainage and of areas of about 5,000 acres each by using and re-using drainage water, ultimately, if possible, with the use of artesian wells. By using drainage methods advised by the Mission, the Saudi Arab Government is already benefiting the same areas. We have had a cordial and cooperative reception everywhere. Wathen and Hamilton are now in perfect health, having entirely recovered. We hope to leave Dhahran about July 19 in order to proceed to Riyadh, Al Kharj and Aflaj.

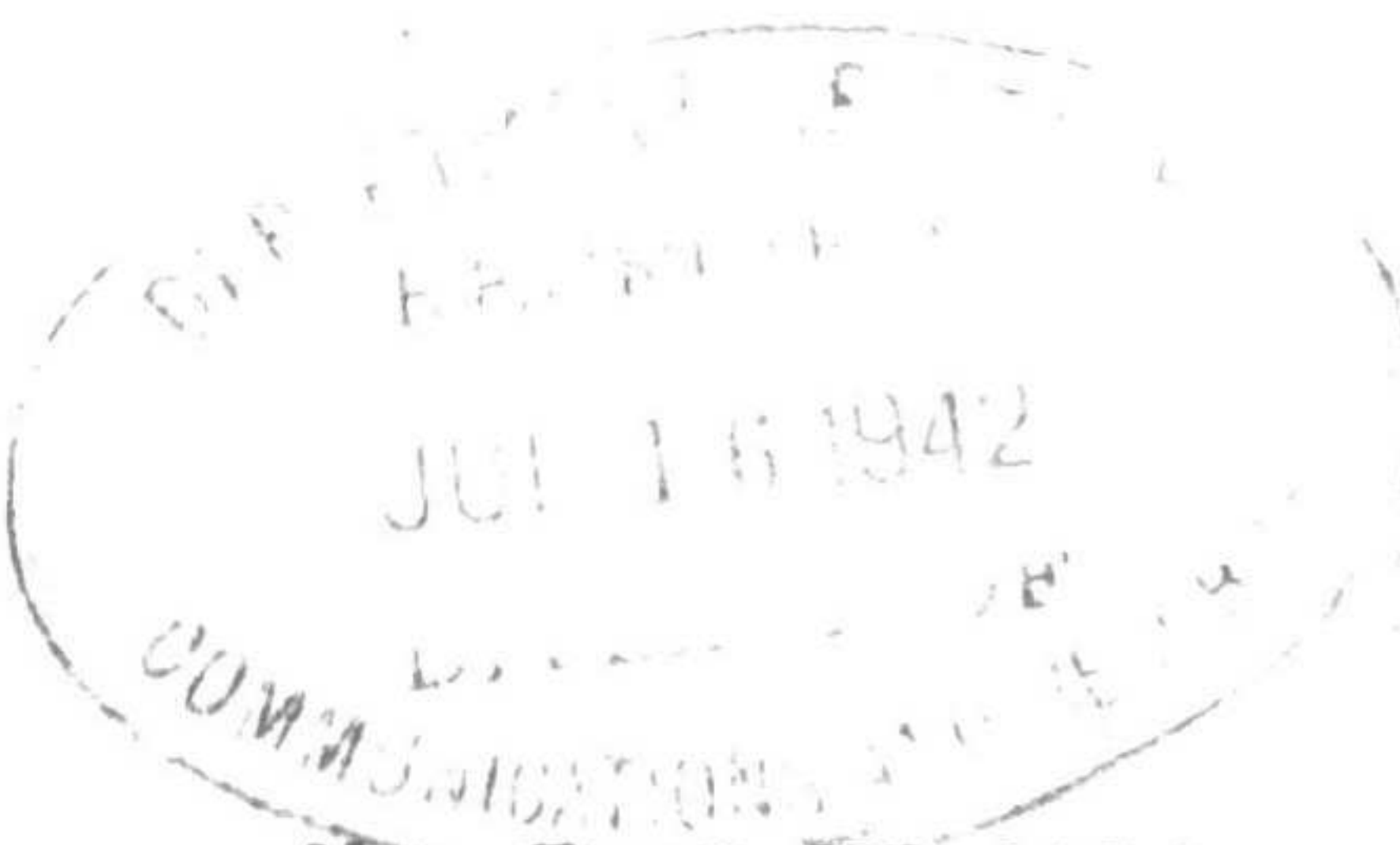
890F.61A/38

gph  
NE/GPM:BLS 7/21/42



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~GPM~~ ~~NE~~



For  
gpr

July 15, 1942.

Telegram to Jidda  
7-20-42 NE: GPM:EML

JUL 21 1942

Mr. Paul H. Alling  
Chief, Division of Near  
Eastern Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Alling:

In Mr. Allee's temporary absence from the office, I am replying to your letter of June 27 (NE 890F.61A/31) which enclosed a letter from James S. Moose, Jr., American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at Jidda, in which he requested cuttings of tamarisk for Saudi Arabia.

We have taken this matter up with the U.S. Plant Introduction Garden, Coconut Grove, Florida, and we have been advised that the cuttings will be supplied in the near future, taking steps to see that the material is sent in accordance with the instructions contained in Mr. Moose's letter.

Sincerely yours,

R. E. Moore  
Assistant Director

890F.61A/39

FILED

JUL 23 1942

PS/VFZ

890F.61A



Central File: Decimal File 890F.61A, Internal Affairs Of States, Agriculture., Saudi Arabia, Agriculture Adviser., Dec. 27, 1940 - July 15, 1942. December 27, 1940 - July 15, 1942. MS Saudi Arabia: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1930-1959: Saudi Arabia: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1930-1944. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5111207209/GDSC?u=uagm&sid=GDSC&xid=b018bf7a&pg=4](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5111207209/GDSC?u=uagm&sid=GDSC&xid=b018bf7a&pg=4). Accessed 13 Apr. 2021.